Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The World's Daily Newspaper ** Paris, Friday, November 29, 1996 No. 35,581

TODAY: EUROPE

Prodi Says Italy Faces Uphill Battle to Euro

He Pledges an 'Extraordinary' Effort

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

ROME — Italy's prime minister conceded for the first time Thursday that Rome would not be able to bring the national budget deficit down on time next year to the level required by the Maastricht treaty on European monetary union.

But the official, Romano Prodi, leader of the center-left governing coalition, predicted that "in all honesty we will get to 3.3 percent, rather than an exact 3 percent, meaning we will be in range.

"And then we will examine together with our European colleagues what we need to do."

In an interview Thursday at his office in Rome, the prime minister said he was prepared "to take extraordinary and supplementary steps if that is deemed necessary" to reach the Maastricht condition of 3 percent of gross domestic product.

Mr. Prodi also said that "in every country in Europe there was a dramatic difference of opinion between central banks and governments" on the issue of the single currency. He declined to go into detail but said: "We need to resolve this."

European governments generally are pushing for monetary union for political reasons, as a means of binding Europe, especially Germany, into a more cohesive whole. At the same time, the Bundesbank and other European central banks have emphasized the importance of adhering strictly to economic and financial criteria for the single currency, regardless of political concerns.

Mr. Prodi reiterated his pledge to resign if Italy did not join the first ranks of single-currency members in 1999, saying, "When you put all your chips in one basket, there are consequences."

Although he did not say so explicitly, Mr. Prodi's remarks appear to confirm the widely held view that some European governments, while failing to achieve the 3 percent Maastricht ratio, hope to join the first wave of single-currency members by coming close to the target when the issue is discussed in early 1998. In 1996, he said, Italy will have a deficit of 6.6 percent of GDP.

Speaking separately Thursday in Florence, Hans Tietmeyer, president of the Bundesbank, praised the Italian government for curbing its borrowing and laying the groundwork for a stable lira. "Italy is on the right track," he said. "Certainly Italy still has a lot to do, even though it has made substantial progress." (Page 15)

Looking ahead to the summit meeting of European Union leaders in Dublin next month, Mr. Prodi called for "more political progress that will make clear to public opinion that Europe is a plus for its citizens and not just a monetary issue."

He warned there was "a dangerous split, with public opinion feeling that Europe is now simply nothing more than an accounting machine, and that is why in Dublin we have to make a new push."

When asked how Germany and France saw Italy's drive to join the single currency in 1999, he said: "Both understand that Italy is important and probably essential for monetary union. But in Germany there is much public skepticism about the single currency, and the result is that Germany must take account of this public opinion, and so you get mixed behavior."

See PRODI, Page 10

Truckers Tighten Grip on France

Gerry Jones, an English truck driver, waiting out the strike in Calais.

Effect on Europe Trade Widens; London Demands Compensation

By Anne Swardson
Washington Post Service

PARIS — Striking truck drivers erected more highway barricades and increased their stranglehold on the French economy Thursday after talks mediated by the government made progress but did not meet key wage demands.

With snow falling in the northern half of France and up to 2,000 out of the country's 18,000 gasoline stations out of fuel or running short, the government warned that it might impose a settlement.

The 11-day strike showed the difficult position of the French government when faced with angry strikers, whom it was also not able to resist during a three-week rail-and-transit strike last year. Already, it has met all the demands of the truck unions that are under its purview, costing France hundreds of millions of dollars at a time when reducing government spending is paramount. The remaining sticking points, on wages and working hours, are up to the private sector.

[Trucking employers said late Thursday that their pay offer, which the truckers had rejected as insufficient, was open to change, Reuters reported. Asked whether the employers were prepared to make a fresh offer to help end the blockade, Jean-Louis Amato, president of the Unostra haulers' association, said the offer was "flexible."]

Effects of the strike rippled through the rest of Europe. As far north as Sweden, Volvo said it would have trouble continuing auto production if the strike went into next week, although the end of an unrelated Danish transport strike eased pressure. (Page 10) In Portugal, a joint automaking venture between Ford and Volkswagen said it could halt production as early as Friday. Trucks were lined up for miles at Belgian ports to get on ferries to Britain.

In London, Prime Minister John Major said he had been "horrified by the consequences of the dispute for British drivers and companies" and repeated calls for France to compensate British drivers whose vehicles have been immobilized. Paris has ruled out blanket compensation but said complaints could be addressed to local prefectures.

More than 10,000 drivers from Britain, Germany and especially Spain, which has no other land bridge to the rest of Europe, were stranded in France.

[The strikers agreed to lift their blockade of the Channel port of Calais temporarily to let stranded truck drivers embark for Britain, Reuters reported. A spokesman for the Chamber of Commerce said 200 foreign trucks, mainly British, would be allowed to board ferries for Dover. But truckers stranded in Britain by the blockade would not be allowed to enter France.]

The strike showed few signs of spreading to other industry sectors, however, the way the rail and transit stoppage did a year ago. An effort by one of the major unions to get workers in other industries to walk out in support of the truckers Wednesday largely failed.

But the truckers alone were able to cause a fair amount of confusion. By late Thursday there were a total of 250 blockades along the roads and highways of France. French television showed

See FRANCE, Page 10

Cease-Fire At Last in GM's Duel With VW?

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — After more than three years of legal and public-relations clashes between two of the world's leading automakers, Jose Ignacio Lopez de Arriortua, the embattled production chief of Volkswagen AG, will resign Friday, company sources told German media Thursday.

Mr. Lopez will offer his resignation Friday to VW's supervisory board, the daily Handelsblatt reported, quoting unidentified company officials.

VW did not deny the newspaper's front-page article but merely issued a statement saying it would have no comment. "To spare you the frustrating telephone calls, the following advisory: no (repeat no) statement is to be expected from us today," it said.

In the course of the day, however, two German-based news agencies reported that their own VW sources had confirmed that Mr. Lopez would resign.

VW has come under growing pressure in recent weeks to reach an out-of-court settlement with General Motors Corp., Mr. Lopez's former employer. On Tuesday, a U.S. judge in Detroit, GM's home town, ruled that GM could pursue racketeering charges against Mr. Lopez and other VW executives, including its board chairman, Ferdinand Piech.

Allowing the racketeering charges would significantly increase the damages that VW would have to pay if found guilty. Mr. Lopez's lawyers have said they expect German prosecutors to file criminal charges of industrial spying in a German court by the end of November.

The expected departure of Mr. Lopez, a former executive at GM who was being courted by VW with high-pressure tactics almost four years ago, could help blunt GM's increasingly strident public accusations against VW.

GM has demanded that VW fire Mr. Lopez as a precondition for any out-of-court settlement in GM's civil suit in Detroit alleging industrial spying by Mr. Lopez and other VW executives.

Once nicknamed "Lopez the Terrible" for his attacks on costs, Mr. Lopez joined VW in 1993 and helped the German carmaker claw its way out of staggering losses for that year.

VW has consistently denied the accusations against Mr. Lopez, 55, and given him unwavering support.

Although Mr. Lopez was a lightning rod for controversy almost from the day he began at VW, the conflict until recently consisted of a rhetorical volley of public declarations. But a new wave of pressure has been mounting on the German carmaker since a series of five court decisions ended in GM's favor.

See VW, Page 10

Newsstand Prices			
Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	LL 3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	16 Dh
Cameroon	1,500 CFA	Qatar	10.00 Riels
Egypt	25 E	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dith
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

Donor Kept 'Popping Up' At Clintons'

By Glenn F. Bunting, Alan C. Miller and Rich Connell
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The White House was aglitter with holiday finery in December 1994 when Johnny Chung escorted a Beijing businessman to the exclusive dining room for lunch before dropping by the offices of Vice President Al Gore and the first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Mr. Chung, an entrepreneur from Torrance, California, introduced White House aides to Shizeng Chen, the chairman of a Chinese beer company who was seeking to export his brew into the United States. Toting two Haomen six-packs, one full and one empty, the visitors snapped photos as they made their rounds. Two days later, Mr. Chung presented Mr. Chen to the Clintons at a formal White House Christmas party.

"Starting from the White House, I want to establish an American market for Haomen beer," Mr. Chen, whose brewery ranks among the 10 largest in China, said to a Chinese reporter during his White House visit.

For Mr. Chung, a gregarious Taiwanese American, this account perfectly reflects his extraordinary access to the president, the first lady and numerous administration officials — and his eagerness to use that access for commercial gain. In all, Mr. Chung made at least 49 visits to the White House, often accompanied by prominent Chinese guests, between early 1994 and June of this year, according to Secret Service records.

Michael McCurry, the White House spokesman, said Wednesday that Mr. Chung "most likely entertained business associates during the times he was in the White House" and "may have attempted to portray himself as someone who had greater influence than the facts would allow."

Unlike many of the first family's friends, Mr. Chung was neither a college classmate nor an Arkansas acquaintance of the Clintons.

However, Mr. Chung and his company have donated $366,000 to the Democratic National Committee since August 1994, when he served as co-chairman of a presidential birthday fund-raising party.

See ACCESS, Page 10

Turnout Is High as Algerians Brave Violence to Vote

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

ALGIERS — Battered by five years of civil war, Algerians appeared ready Thursday to approve a new constitution barring Islamic political parties, emasculating the Parliament and granting sweeping new powers to the president.

With army troops and paramilitary forces massively deployed in the streets of Algiers, the vote took place in an atmosphere at once tense and sullen. A wave of killings in recent weeks that has left 270 people dead has made a mockery of official claims that no more than "residual terrorism" affects Algeria after the loss since 1992 of about 50,000 lives in fighting between the government and Islamic militants.

For the government of President Liamine Zeroual, a retired general, the passing of the constitution is supposed to mark the opening of a new phase leading to what the president has called an "authentic, pluralistic democracy."

[A high turnout — nearly 72 percent of voters two hours before polls closed, the government said — was already a sign of success for President Zeroual, The Associated Press reported.]

But recent violence, a ban on television appearances by opposition parties in the run up to the vote, and the contents of the constitution itself, all suggest that the entrenchment of the military-backed authorities that have ruled Algeria since independence from France in 1962 is more likely than any real democratic reform.

It was Algeria's first attempt, beginning in 1989, at a democratic opening that led to the spiral of violence that has crippled the country.

The now outlawed Islamic Salvation Front first swept to victory in local elections and then appeared poised to win parliamentary elections in 1992, before the military canceled the second round of the vote. In response, Islamic insurgents began a campaign of terror — met by progressively more savage reprisals — that has relentlessly eroded the political center.

"Democracy — what democracy?" Hiba Mazit, a social worker in a depressed eastern suburb of Bourouba, asked Thursday as she stood in a polling

See ALGERIA, Page 10

AGENDA

U.S. and Saudis Act on Threats

KUWAIT (Reuters) — American and Saudi intelligence efforts averted possible new terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia, and the U.S. military remains on high alert there, Defense Secretary William Perry said Thursday.

Mr. Perry told reporters flying with him from Bosnia to Kuwait that there had been several arrests to prevent attacks. He declined to provide details.

The defense secretary is to travel to Saudi Arabia on Friday as part of a Gulf tour.

"These are cases where I cannot discuss details," Mr. Perry said.

"They were based on intelligence information we or the Saudis had.

"Based on that information, either they or we took action and it, in our judgment, averted what would have been some sort of a terrorist attempted action."

A total of 24 American soldiers were killed in two bomb attacks on military facilities in Saudi Arabia in November 1995 and in June of this year.

Investigations are continuing into those attacks.

P. Parvendran/Agence France-Presse

FAR FROM HOME — Tibetan women joining in an anti-Chinese rally Thursday in New Delhi before Jiang Zemin's state visit. Page 4.

PAGE TWO
Newfoundland Prays for Fish

Books ..... Page 13.
Crossword ..... Page 12.

INTERNATIONAL Page 7.
ASEAN Delay Is Seen for Burma

Opinion ..... Pages 8-9.
Sports ..... Pages 20-21.

As Beijing Scores Points, Taipei Winces

By Keith Richburg
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — In the game of bluster, intimidation and diplomacy being played between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, this has not been a particularly good week for Taipei.

The week started bad early, on Sunday in Manila, with President Bill Clinton and his Chinese counterpart, President Jiang Zemin, smiling broadly, shaking hands and promising a mutual exchange of visits to each other's capitals and an overall improvement in the recent rocky relations between their two countries.

Taipei gets jittery whenever Washington and Beijing move closer together, because the United States is seen as Taiwan's main protector and its principal arms supplier. The fear on the island is that whenever a U.S. president wants to score points with the mainland, relations with Taiwan are cooled.

The bad week got worse late Wednesday, when President Nelson Man

South Africa expects China trade boom. • Taiwan won't encourage investment in South Africa. Page 18.

dela announced at his home in Johannesburg that South Africa would break its diplomatic relations with Taiwan and recognize the mainland.

"We regret this very much," said Mr. Mandela, after earlier declaring it would be "immoral" for South Africa to abandon an old friend. He made it clear that the switch was being forced on him, because Beijing refused to accept a policy of "dual recognition" of both China and Taiwan.

To not recognize China — the world's most populous country with a Security Council seat and a growing trade relationship with South Africa — would be "inconsistent with South Africa's role in international affairs," Mr. Mandela said.

South Africa's switch, while not unexpected, is a major blow to Taiwan. South Africa is the biggest and most important of the 30 countries with diplomatic relations with Taipei, and Taiwan officials and analysts say Mr. Mandela's announcement could start a ripple effect among smaller African countries that may not want to be caught

See TAIWAN, Page 10

First Crack In Japan's Glass Ceiling

By Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — In a landmark ruling in Japan, where women face discrimination in nearly every aspect of their lives, a Tokyo court has found a bank guilty of denying promotions to 12 female employees because of their sex.

The court ordered the bank on Wednesday to pay the women a total of almost $900,000 and to promote immediately to management positions the 11 plaintiffs still with the bank.

It was the first time a Japanese court held an employer liable for denying promotions because of an employee's sex.

"More and more women are working, and there is a national awakening to their rights," said Fukuko Sakamoto, the attorney who represented the women. "This case will have a very big impact on the workplace."

The working conditions faced by the women at Shiba Shinyo credit union are similar to those faced by millions of women across Japan. More than 99 percent of the bank's managers were men; overall in Japan, only 4 percent of managers are women.

In their lawsuit, filed more than nine years ago, the women argued that most of the bank's 200 female employees were expected to serve tea to their male colleagues.

College-educated women with up to 40 years' seniority were stuck in jobs counting coins or answering phones, while men were routinely promoted to management within 15 years.

The "glass ceiling" for women in the workplace has long been decried in many countries, but that ceiling is set several stories lower in Japan. Almost uniformly in the Japanese workplace, men make decisions and women make photocopies.

Women are routinely encouraged to quit their careers when they have children. Those who choose to stay at work, or not to marry, are subjected to heavy

See JAPAN, Page 10

Newfoundland Prays for Fish / **A Way of Life Is Hampered**

A Place Where People Understand Cod

By Anthony DePalma
New York Times Service

PETTY HARBOUR, Newfoundland — Life on the old English shore of Newfoundland is much as it ever was. "Come from aways," as outsiders are known, are still expected to down a shot of potent rum called screech and then kiss a cod before they are completely welcomed. Newfoundlanders still savor the quirky local delicacy of baked cod tongues. The sight of Suzanne Fagan's old pickup truck loaded with fresh and salted cod still stops traffic on the waterfront in St. John's, the capital.

Cod still is king here, even though it has gone into icy exile.

Once the fish was so plentiful in the cold waters off Newfoundland that fishermen believed that even if the sea was black with boats, too many cod could never be taken. Then in 1992 the cod almost disappeared, and the government slapped a moratorium on commercial fishing to give the stocks a chance to replenish.

Now the cod on Ms. Fagan's pickup and a few others like it are about all the cod that anyone here gets to see. Under the guidance of government scientists, a few fishermen set their cod jigs and traps and hand lines in designated spots to measure catch rates. The scientists use the information to calculate how many cod are in the water. Fish processing plants clean the cod and are allowed to sell it.

Communities all along the rocky eastern coast of Newfoundland were settled by English and Irish men who came for the cod. Their descendants now struggle to survive until the great schools of fish come back, carefully weighing an instinctive impulse to go to sea against the painful knowledge that the cod is not limitless.

Recently there have been some signs that the stocks may be starting to come back. This summer, scout fishermen like Ronald Hickey of Petty Harbour were bringing in cod that weighed about four or five pounds, twice as big as last year. This raised the hopes of some longtime fishermen and the concerns of others, and even old friends could not agree on what the sea was saying.

"There was great improvement this year over last year," said George Chafe, a lifelong cod fisherman also from Petty Harbour.

"No," Mr. Hickey countered, "that's false — that's completely false."

Understanding the cod and its mysterious ways is the never-ending study in this hard-scrabble village south of St. John's.

"Last year our catch rates were down because we were catching small fish," Mr. Hickey said. "This year we went out and we fished nice size fish. But there's no smaller fish in there with them, and that's what you want to see because they're the ones to reproduce."

"I'm of two minds about it," Mr. Chafe went on. "In tight to the rocks, there's fish. There's fish all over the place. What we don't know is how much fish is out there because there's nobody out there catching them."

Mr. Hickey replied: "If there's no fish in the offshore and you've got a little stock in the bay and they catch up that bit of fish that's there in that bay, that's all of it. So they'd better be sure what they're doing."

A report last month by a council of fishermen and scientists recommended that some waters off Newfoundland be reopened on a very modest scale, for the first time since the moratorium. The report is now before the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which is expected to follow the recommendations.

"You've got to fish in a sustainable manner," even if that means taking fewer fish than required to put everyone back to work, said Brian Tobin, the premier of Newfoundland and a former national fisheries minister. Although the 19.8-percent unemployment rate in his province is the highest in Canada and twice the national average, Mr. Tobin wants the government to move cautiously.

It has been difficult here since the cod left, and nobody would get their lines into the water faster than Mr. Chafe and Mr. Hickey if the moratorium were lifted even a bit. But although the two friends had never done anything but fish, they said they had been chastened by the cod and had developed a new respect for the fish and its ways.

"When you're reared in this community, you're reared with fish," Mr. Chafe said.

His ancestors, Chafes going back to "the first fella come over from England" had always fished out of Petty Harbour. Even though last summer, for the first time in his life, Mr. Chafe had to actually go down to the fish pens and buy cod, he did not want to see things return to the way they were before the sea was closed.

"I'll be honest with you, straightforward," he said. "A lot of fisher people are in it for greed."

He recounted how, when the cod was plentiful, some boats went only after volume, selling their catch for as little as three cents a pound, and how when the fish started getting smaller, fishermen went from eight-inch gill nets to three-and-a-half-inch nets to trap the smaller fish.

"There's no way I won't take part of the blame," he said. "It got out of hand."

Mr. Chafe cannot stay away from the sea. He still takes out his 28-foot boat, but not for cod. His old wooden shed on the Petty Harbour waterfront is now filled with all manner of new contraptions, from crab traps to jigs for bringing up squid and even dozens of plastic pails he will use to go for whelk.

Mr. Chafe and Mr. Hickey are both 59 now, and they know the years are against them for ever again going after cod the way they used to.

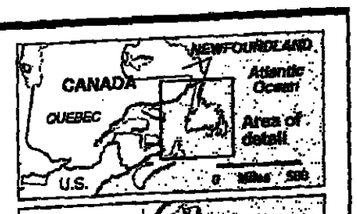
But Mr. Chafe's son, Tod, is just 25 and Mr. Hickey's son, David, is 29 and they had nothing else in their minds but fishing, their fathers said.

Despite the hardships, the danger and the cold that could seep into the bones, they said it was a good life for the lads to follow, so long as the cod comes back.

"The fishery is not dead in Newfoundland," Mr. Chafe said. "I think that when it gets reorganized and gets straightened away and some of the fishermen are taken out, there's going to be better for the young ones who stays in it. That's my belief, know what I mean?"

This time, Mr. Hickey agreed.

Anthony DePalma/The New York Times



The New York Times

Suzanne Fagan selling cod from the back of her pickup truck in St. John's. Now the fish on her pickup and a few others like it are about all the cod that anyone here gets to see.

HIV Surges In World's Poor States

3 Million New Cases Reported This Year

By Lawrence K. Altman
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — More than 3 million people, mostly under age 25, have become infected with the AIDS virus this year, officials of the United Nations and the World Health Organization say.

The new cases bring to nearly 23 million the total number who are infected. In the 15 years since the discovery of AIDS, an additional 6.4 million people — 5 million adults and 1.4 million children — have died. Of those deaths, 1.5 million will have occurred in 1996.

Of the 8,500 new infections each day, 7,500 are in adults and 1,000 in children. About 42 percent of all those living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, are women, and the proportion is growing.

The figures are estimates because most developing countries vastly underreport official AIDS figures for reasons largely related to crude disease surveillance systems, the Geneva-based agencies said in reporting them Wednesday.

New outbreaks of HIV infection are erupting in Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, China and elsewhere, said Dr. Peter Piot, who heads the United Nations' global AIDS program. Surveys show surging rates of infection among sex workers, truck drivers and migrant workers who are transmitting the disease in wider areas in many of the countries.

In Vietnam, for example, infection rates have climbed to 38 percent in 1994 and 1995, from 9 percent in 1992. In Cambodia, 10 percent of people who offered to donate blood in Phnom Penh in 1995 were infected, compared with 0.1 percent in 1991.

The HIV epidemic is "strengthening its grip on the world's most vulnerable populations," Dr. Piot said. The surges provide "clear warning that HIV infections are not abating, and unless these countries put their muscle behind prevention programs now, the epidemic will reach tragic proportions," he said.

Africa is the continent hardest hit by AIDS. New surveys in Zimbabwe and Botswana have found that up to 40 percent of pregnant women are infected, Dr. Piot said in an interview.

"The epidemic is starting to skyrocket in Russia and the Ukraine where transmission is from everything — injecting drugs, poor hygiene, and heterosexual and homosexual intercourse," he said.

■ Hope in Thailand and Uganda

Erik Ipsen of the International Herald Tribune reported from London:

Despite their concern about the spread of the disease, UN officials see some hopeful signs.

"We are entering a new, more hopeful phase," Dr. Piot said. "For the first time we see reason for optimism on both the therapeutic front and the prevention front."

On prevention, where UN agencies have concentrated their efforts, there is now solid evidence of success in two of the hardest-hit developing nations. In both Uganda and in Thailand, studies show a sharp drop in the number of new cases of AIDS.

Last year, for example, Thai authorities reported 40,000 new cases of the disease, down from a peak of 190,000 new cases of several years ago.

United Nations AIDS officials credit programs offering a mix of education and individual counseling, plus the provision of condoms, with their success in pushing down rates of infection.

Meanwhile, new drug therapies at last offer hope to those who have contracted the disease. So-called combination therapies involving the use of a trio of drugs simultaneously now allow AIDS patients a return to virtually normal lives. But the drugs are extremely expensive.

For the 9 out of 10 people with HIV who live in developing countries, the promise of such solutions remains, as Dr. Piot said, "only a dream."

Another Close Call, as Asteroid Passes 3.3 Million Miles Away

By Curt Suplee
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Humanity will dodge a bullet from space Friday as an asteroid named Toutatis passes within 3.3 million miles of Earth, a close call by astronomical standards.

But in the solar system, what goes around comes around, and Toutatis will be back. The rocky object — three miles long, 1.5 miles wide and shaped like a sort of mutant carrot — has an orbit that brings it near Earth every four years.

In 1992, Toutatis came within about 2 million miles of Earth. On Sept. 29 in 2004, it will pass less than a million miles away, only four times the distance to the moon, according to Gareth Williams of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Such ballistic debris (either leftover rubble from planet formation or the cores of comets that ran out of gas in our neighborhood) is disconcertingly common. Depending on who is counting, astronomers estimate that 1,000 to 10,000 objects with a diameter of one-quarter mile or larger have orbits that bring them close to Earth. The first such "near-Earth asteroid" was discovered in 1918, and by 1982 the total was 49. In the next 10 years, 110 more of them were identified, Gerrit L. Verschuur, a radio astronomer, writes in his new book, "*Impact!*"

The official count is now 391, of which 205 cross Earth's orbit. That number keeps growing, said Lucy McFadden, a planetary scientist at the University of Maryland, because "we now have about eight programs worldwide with telescopes scanning the skies to find those we don't know about already."

Toutatis was discovered in 1989 by French astronomers and named after an ancient Gallic deity. It is not among the largest of the known near-Earth asteroids: A few are 4 or 5 miles in diameter. But it is "one of the strangest objects in the solar system," according to Steven J. Ostro of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and R. Scott Hudson of Washington State University.

Mr. Ostro and Mr. Hudson studied the asteroid in detail during its 1992 appearance, and discerned not only its highly irregular shape, but its peculiar tumbling motion. Their radio telescope images — which are approximately 100 times more detailed than any taken previously — show that Toutatis is made up of two large lobes of material joined by a narrow isthmus, suggesting that it may have been formed when two objects collided. That, the scientists speculate, might account for its screwball motion: Toutatis rotates around its long axis every 5.41 days, and around a shorter axis every 7.35 days.

"As a result," writes Alan M. MacRobert in the December issue of Sky & Telescope, "the sun and stars slowly careen around the Toutanian sky in patterns that never repeat."

Asteroids like Toutatis — as well as comets that approach close to Earth — have become a matter of urgent interest since a specially commissioned NASA panel estimated in 1993 that there is approximately a 1-in-10,000 chance that the Earth will be whacked by something one-third of a mile in diameter or greater within 100 years. Other experts put the probability closer to 1 in 1,000. Encounters such as Friday's, Ms. McFadden said, are "a heads-up" reminder.

Experts say it would take a ferocious impact by an object at least one or two miles in diameter to prompt planetwide climate changes and crop failures through a combination of dust spewed into the atmosphere and smoke from extensive fires. But smaller projectiles could be locally lethal: In 1908, a comet-like fragment only 300 feet across exploded in the sky over Siberia, flattening more than 100 square miles of forest.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Airport Authority has been charged with developing and operating Hong Kong's new airport at Chek Lap Kok.

The Authority would like to receive Expressions of Interest from parties desiring to be considered for a franchise to provide

PAYPHONE SERVICES

The Franchisee will be responsible for the design, installation, operation and maintenance of the payphone system at Hong Kong's new airport at Chek Lap Kok. The scope of Payphone Services shall include the provision of local and international telephone calling and fax services with the possibility of extension to other telecommunication services.

Interested parties are invited to register, before 6 December 1996, for the Expressions of Interest document in writing, by mail or by fax to :

The Finance and Commercial Director
Airport Authority
25th Floor, Central Plaza
18 Harbour Road, Wan Chai
Hong Kong

Fax No. :(852) 2802-8445

A formal submission of response to the Expressions of Interest document is required by 12.00 noon (Hong Kong time) on 20 December 1996.

All costs associated with any submission in response to this notice or the Expressions of Interest document shall be entirely the responsibility of the person(s) or organisation(s) concerned. The Authority reserves the right to reject any application at its discretion and without explanation.

For general enquiries regarding this advertisement, please contact Mr. Anthony Yuen at (852) 2824-7584.

香港機場管理局
AIRPORT AUTHORITY HONG KONG

TRAVEL UPDATE

Strike Cuts Air France Flights

PARIS (Reuters) — A strike by French pilots and air crews cut flights for a second day Thursday.

Air France said it guaranteed two-thirds of long-distance flights and a quarter of medium-distance flights during the 48-hour strike. Air France Europe, the short-distance unit of Air France, said it was providing fewer than half its normal flights.

While the strike was due to end at midnight Thursday, more cancellations at Air France Europe were planned Friday because of a backlog of flights as a result of the walkout.

Greeks Protest Austerity Budget

ATHENS (Reuters) — Greek workers crippled transport, schools, hospitals and public services with a 24-hour strike Thursday to protest the 1997 austerity budget, which will be presented Friday to Parliament.

The strike disrupted air, sea, train and urban transport. The General Confederation of Greek Workers, the country's largest union, said that 70 to 100 percent of its members took part in the strike.

Jordan and Israel have decided to start twice-weekly flights between Amman and the northern Israeli town of Haifa in January and to add an extra weekly flight between Amman and Tel Aviv beginning Dec. 9. *(AFP)*

A contractor blacked out radar for the island of St. Thomas and part of Puerto Rico for about one and a half hours Wednesday by mistakenly unplugging a cable at San Juan airport's traffic control center. Air traffic controllers were forced to stay in voice contact with aircraft and to increase the distances between planes, the Federal Aviation Administration reported. *(AP)*

Italian air traffic controllers called off a strike planned for Friday and Saturday that would have severely disrupted flights in northern Italy. *(AFP)*

EU Adopts Dates For Time Change

Reuters

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament backed plans Thursday to have the whole of the European Union change to daylight saving time on the same day.

Lack of coordination wreaks havoc with international plane and train timetables, and with cross-border trade in vital sectors such as telecommunications.

The Parliament agreed with the European Commission that summer time should begin on the last Sunday in March and end on the last Sunday in October.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE
BACHELOR'S • MASTER'S • DOCTORATE
For Work, Life and Academic Experience
Through Convenient Home Study
(808) 597-1989 EXT. 23
FAX: (310) 471-8456
HTTP://WWW.PWU.COM
Fax or send detailed resume for
FREE EVALUATION
Pacific Western University
1210 Auahi Street, Dept. 23
Honolulu, HI 96814-4922

WEATHER

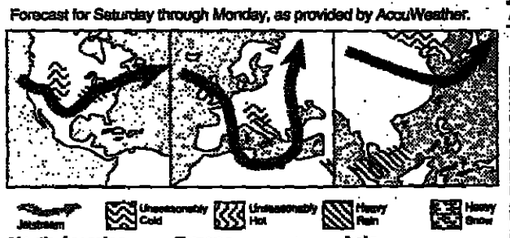
Europe

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Algarve	17/62	9/48 s	18/64	13/55 pc
Amsterdam	7/44	4/39 r	8/43	3/37 sh
Ankara	8/46	1/34 pc	10/50	3/37 c
Athens	17/62	14/57 sh	17/62	10/50 sh
Barcelona	8/46	7/44 c	16/61	7/44 pc
Belgrade	4/39	-1/31 sn	9/48	6/43 sh
Berlin	-1/31	-3/27 c	3/37	-1/31 sn
Brussels	7/44	3/37 r	6/43	2/35 r
Budapest	1/34	-3/27 c	2/35	0/32 sn
Copenhagen	1/34	-1/31 sf	1/34	-2/28 sn
Costa Del Sol	18/61	8/46 pc	18/64	12/53 pc
Dublin	8/46	6/43 c	10/50	9/48 pc
Edinburgh	9/48	4/39 sh	8/46	5/41 c
Florence	5/41	4/39 pc	12/53	1/34 sh
Frankfurt	-1/31	-2/28 sf	1/34	-2/28 sn
Geneva	1/34	0/32 sn	3/37	-2/28 sn
Helsinki	1/34	-2/28 sn	-2/28	-3/27 sn
Istanbul	17/62	12/53 sh	18/61	12/50 sh
Las Palmas	21/70	15/59 s	21/70	15/59 s
Lisbon	13/55	8/46 s	14/57	13/55 c
London	9/48	4/39 c	9/48	4/39 c
Madrid	11/52	4/39 c	13/55	7/44 c
Mallorca	8/46	7/44 c	16/57	8/46 pc
Milan	2/35	1/34 sn	7/44	-3/27 pc
Moscow	0/48	3/37 c	6/43	4/39 sn
Munich	-1/31	-2/28 pc	1/34	-5/24 sn
Nice	8/46	9/48 pc	18/61	3/37 s
Oslo	0/32	-4/25 c	-2/28	-6/22 sn
Paris	8/46	5/41 sh	5/41	1/34 sh
Prague	-2/28	-3/27 c	1/34	-4/25 sn
Reykjavik	3/37	1/34 r	4/39	3/37 sn
Rome	12/53	5/41 pc	10/50	3/37 r
St. Petersburg	4/39	2/35 r	2/35	-1/31 sn
Stockholm	1/34	-1/31 sn	1/34	-3/27 sn
Strasbourg	2/35	0/32 sn	2/35	-2/28 sn
Tallinn	0/32	-1/31 sn	-0/29	-3/27 sn
Venice	2/35	1/34 pc	7/44	1/34 sh
Vienna	-1/31	-4/25 pc	2/35	-2/28 sn
Warsaw	2/29	-5/24 c	+1/31	-2/28 sn
Zurich	1/34	-1/31 sn	2/35	-3/29 sn

Middle East

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Abu Dhabi	36/79	16/61 pc	35/77	14/57 s
Beirut	21/70	14/57 pc	24/75	15/61 pc
Cairo	23/73	12/53 s	27/80	13/55 s
Damascus	19/66	7/44 s	23/73	9/48 pc
Jerusalem	18/64	8/48 s	21/70	10/50 pc
Luxor	28/82	9/48 s	29/84	11/52 s
Riyadh	21/70	11/52 c	23/73	11/52 s

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
A storm will bring heavy snow to the southern Rockies Saturday, while cooler air moves into the Southwest. That storm will spread a wintry mix of rain, ice and snow across the central and southern Plains Saturday and Sunday, while the Midwest will be milder with rain.

Europe
Cold and damp across central Europe with rain and snow; cold air will plunge southward across Italy by Sunday. London will be mild with some sunshine Saturday and Sunday, then colder with the chance for showers Monday. Cool but dry in Madrid with clouds Saturday, then sun Sunday.

Asia
Sunny, dry and continued cold in Beijing over the weekend, then a little milder Monday. Seoul will remain cold into Monday with a few flurries. Tokyo will be near normal with showers on Saturday, then turning colder Sunday and Monday. Warm and humid with showers in Singapore.

North America

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Anchorage	-7/20	-13/9 sn	-8/18	-14/7 s
Atlanta	19/61	8/46 pc	19/67	9/48 sh
Boston	3/37	-2/29 s	4/39	1/34 pc
Chicago	4/39	1/34 pc	4/39	1/34 c
Dallas	11/52	9/48 r	11/52	8/43 r
Denver	0/32	-9/15 sf	1/34	-8/18 sn
Detroit	4/39	0/32 pc	4/39	2/35 c
Honolulu	27/80	20/68 pc	28/82	21/70 sh
Houston	21/70	14/57 sh	22/71	13/55 t
Los Angeles	19/66	10/50 s	22/69	9/48 s
Miami	29/79	20/68 pc	29/79	20/68 pc
Minneapolis	-2/28	-6/21 pc	0/32	-6/22 sf
Montreal	-3/27	-8/18 c	4/39	0/32 pc
Nassau	24/75	18/68 s	25/77	19/66 pc
New York	4/39	0/32 s	7/44	2/35 pc
Orlando	24/75	16/61 pc	28/73	16/61 pc
Phoenix	19/64	6/41 sh	14/57	4/39 s
San Fran.	16/59	8/46 s	16/61	7/44 s
Seattle	7/44	3/37 sh	8/46	4/39 sh
Toronto	2/35	-3/27 pc	5/41	3/37 pc
Vancouver	7/44	3/37 sh	8/46	-1/31 sh
Washington	8/46	1/34 s	9/48	2/35 pc

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hos, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

Asia

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Bali	34/93	23/73 s	34/93	23/73 pc
Bangkok	33/91	25/77 pc	33/91	25/77 c
Beijing	-1/31	-15/5 s	-3/27	-11/13 s
Bombay	31/88	27/82 s	30/86	27/82 s
Calcutta	27/80	19/66 s	28/79	19/66 s
Chiang Mai	33/91	22/71 pc	29/84	18/64 c
Colombo	29/82	23/73 t	29/84	23/73 sh
Hanoi	28/79	16/61 pc	18/66	11/52 pc
Ho Chi Minh	32/89	24/75 t	32/89	24/75 sh
Hong Kong	24/75	15/59 pc	17/62	11/52 pc
Islamabad	21/70	6/43 s	23/73	6/43 pc
Jakarta	32/89	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Karachi	29/84	8/48 s	29/84	11/52 s
K. Lumpur	32/89	23/73 t	32/89	23/73 t
K. Kinabalu	29/84	22/71 t	29/84	23/73 c
Manila	30/86	22/71 t	30/86	23/73 pc
New Delhi	29/79	7/44 pc	26/79	6/43 s
Phnom Penh	31/88	24/75 t	29/84	23/73 t
Phuket	33/91	25/77 pc	29/84	19/66 c
Rangoon	33/91	24/75 pc	29/84	19/66 c
Seoul	0/32	-11/13 pc	-4/25	-14/7 sf
Shanghai	13/55	-3/27 sh	4/39	-6/22 s
Singapore	32/89	24/75 t	30/86	23/73 c
Taipei	24/75	16/61 sh	18/61	11/52 c
Tokyo	13/55	6/43 r	11/52	3/37 pc
Yangtze	28/79	18/61 pc	19/66	13/55 pc

Africa

Algiers	12/53	5/41 pc	17/62	9/48 pc
Cape Town	19/64	-9/48 pc	20/68	11/52 s
Casablanca	13/55	8/48 s	18/65	10/50 s
Harare	23/73	9/48 s	20/68	9/48 s
Lagos	31/88	22/71 pc	31/88	22/71 t
Nairobi	27/80	13/55 pc	28/82	13/55 pc
Tunis	12/53	5/41 c	16/61	9/48 c

Latin America

Buenos Aires	31/88	20/68 pc	28/82	16/61 pc
Caracas	31/88	22/71 t	31/88	23/73 pc
Lima	24/75	18/64 pc	23/73	13/55 s
Mexico City	21/70	8/46 pc	23/73	9/48 pc
Rio de Janeiro	28/82	22/71 pc	23/73	18/64 pc
Santiago	29/84	9/48 s	31/88	12/53 s

Oceania

Auckland	18/64	11/52 pc	19/66	17/62 sh
Sydney	28/82	18/64 s	22/71	16/61 s

Imprimé par Offprint, 73 rue de l'Evangile, 75018 Paris.

هكذا من الأصل

THE AMERICAS

Many Children to Lose U.S. Disability Benefits

New Welfare Law May Deprive 260,000

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government has sent letters to the parents of 260,000 children notifying them that the children might lose disability benefits because of the new welfare law.

The cash benefits, averaging $424 a month, are paid under the Supplemental Security Income program. The children, most of them from low-income families, were previously found to have a wide range of severe physical or mental disabilities like cerebral palsy, autism, tuberculosis, diabetes, sickle cell anemia, epilepsy and mental retardation.

Some children, especially those with mental, emotional and behavioral problems, will lose the cash benefits they receive.

For years, critics of the fast-growing program have contended that it was too generous and that some children received benefits even though their medical problems were not very severe. The program was a prime target of Republicans who wrote the welfare bill, which President Bill Clinton signed Aug. 22.

Philip Gambino, a spokesman for the Social Security Administration, said the letters were sent Wednesday to 260,000 of the one million children who receive disability benefits. The government will review the cases to see if the youngsters meet the definition of disability established by the new law and regulations.

Mr. Gambino estimated that 100,000 to 200,000 children — 10 percent to 20 percent of all children on the rolls — would eventually lose benefits.

The effort will be a test of resolve for those determined to prune the rolls and for others trying to minimize the impact of the new welfare law. Past attempts to reduce the number of children in the program encountered stiff opposition.

The new law tightens eligibility standards, but Congress gave the president great latitude to interpret the law. Administration officials are writing regulations that will, by redefining disability, determine the impact of the law. The new regulations are supposed to be issued in the next few weeks. Administration officials said Mr. Clinton would probably review the rules because the decision could set off a political furor.

In a sample letter to parents, Janice Warden, a deputy commissioner of Social Security, said, "We will review Jane Doe's case to see if she is disabled under the new definition of disability for children," adding, "If we find she is not disabled because of the new law, we will stop her S.S.I., unless you appeal our decision." She was referring to the Supplemental Security Income.

The new law does not stop benefits immediately. Children on the rolls may receive benefits through June 1997, provided they continue to meet all the other eligibility criteria.

Parents of disabled children and their advocates urged Mr. Clinton to be compassionate as he applies the law.

"The power to hurt these children, or to assist them, is completely in President Clinton's hands," said Martha Ford, a lobbyist for the Arc, formerly known as the Association for Retarded Citizens.

Children qualify for disability benefits only if their parents' income and assets are less than certain levels set by law. Benefits decline as family income rises. Families generally become ineligible as incomes approach $30,000 a year. Two-thirds of the disabled children receiving benefits are in families with low incomes — less than $21,000 a year for a family of four in 1995.

Under the old law, children could qualify for disability benefits in two ways: if they met the medical criteria in a list of impairments or if they were unable to engage in activities appropriate for their ages. The new law eliminates the second alternative.

Doug Mills/The Associated Press

TIMBER! — Hilary Rodham Clinton leading a donated Christmas tree to its new home: the White House.

Dramatic Rise in Opium Production Is Reported

By William Branigin
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Fueled by expanding drug trafficking rings and ineffectual or corrupt governments, the world's production of opium has risen dramatically in recent years and is pushing up addiction rates for heroin, according to the U.S. drug policy chief.

Barry R. McCaffrey, a retired general who heads the White House Office of Drug Control Policy, expressed alarm about the increases after returning from a trip to Southeast Asia that overlapped with President Bill Clinton's visit to Thailand. Mr. McCaffrey visited the "Golden Triangle," which spans the borders of Burma, Thailand and Laos and produces most of the world's opium, the narcotic from which heroin is derived.

Global opium production has doubled since 1988 and is now about 4,000 metric tons a year, according to estimates compiled by the Central Intelligence Agency and cited by Mr. McCaffrey. It takes about 10 tons of opium to make one ton of heroin, experts say.

"This massive commodity production is looking for a marketplace," and its greatest impact is likely to be in the regions where opium poppies are grown, Mr. McCaffrey said Wednesday. He said drug trafficking and addiction are up sharply in China, notably near the Golden Triangle, and in Pakistan, which borders the world's second-largest opium producer, Afghanistan.

At the same time, international drug trafficking organizations — including Nigerian, Chinese, Colombian and Mexican rings — are "aggressively" marketing heroin in the United States and Europe. As cocaine use has fallen in the United States in recent years, Colombian gangs in particular have sought to peddle heroin to try to keep their share of the U.S. narcotics market.

Global opium production has doubled since 1988 and is now about 4,000 metric tons a year.

The United States has about 600,000 addicts, only 2 percent of the world's total, but "we're seeing some disturbing trends among young people," he said.

Opium production in Colombia has risen from virtually nothing a few years ago to 65 metric tons last year, surpassing Mexico, according to the CIA figures. Together, the two countries now produce more than enough heroin to meet current U.S. demand of about 10 metric tons a year, Mr. McCaffrey said.

Still, the output from Latin America is dwarfed by that from Southeast Asia, which produces 60 percent of the world's opium. Of that, the CIA figures show, 92 percent comes from Burma, the world's biggest producer. Based largely on satellite reconnaissance of areas under cultivation, agency estimates put Burma's 1996 opium production at 2,560 metric tons and rising.

The increase in Burmese opium production in recent years coincides with the takeover in Burma of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, a military junta known as SLORC.

"The jury is still out on how much SLORC is involved in drug production," Mr. McCaffrey said. "But we can say that the drug production is up, not down." He said the junta's "dismal" human rights record was an obstacle to U.S. cooperation in trying to reduce opium cultivation.

U.S. and EU Link to Fight Resurgent Diseases

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Alarmed by evidence that diseases once thought virtually wiped out are staging a comeback, public health officials from the United States and Europe have agreed to establish a global early warning network to alert doctors and governments about budding epidemics.

The network — established by a U.S.-European Union task force on communicable diseases — will start by registering outbreaks of "food-borne" diseases like hepatitis and the E-coli bacterium. If the plan works, it will be extended to all communicable diseases.

Relatively small outbreaks of disease often grow into global epidemics because local governments try to cover them up, and doctors in the rest of the world fail to recognize the microbes as they are spread by jetliners and other transportation, said Nancy Carter-Foster, director of the State Department's emerging infectious diseases program, and Georgios Gouvras, head of the EU's public health policy unit.

Under current procedures, the World Health Organization requires governments to report outbreaks of just three diseases — cholera, plague and yellow fever. A deadly disease like Ebola is not covered.

"I'm not sure that the WHO or any other organization has the resources to do the job," Mr. Gouvras said.

Under the new plan, U.S. and European governments would report outbreaks on their territory, as well as any elsewhere that come to their attention. Other governments would be encouraged to participate, in part by promises of aid to battle epidemics.

As a first step, the network will establish a list of diseases not by name but by clinical symptoms. The object, officials said, is to make sure that nothing is overlooked because physicians do not recognize it as a serious disease.

According to a Clinton administration report presented to the panel, world health officials virtually wrote off communicable diseases in the 1960s because antibiotic drugs, vaccines against childhood diseases and improved sanitation seemed about to make them extinct.

"As it turned out, our understandable euphoria was premature," the report said. "New microbial threats are appearing in significant numbers, while well-known illnesses thought to be under control are re-emerging."

POLITICAL NOTES

Democrats Gain From Latino Backlash

LOS ANGELES — Judging from the unprecedented surge in Democratic support from Latino voters in California and other states, it would be easy to assume that they have found their ideological home.

A little-known Hispanic woman, Loretta Sanchez, scored a major upset in defeating Representative Robert K. Doman, an Orange County Republican, according to a tally Friday that gave her an insurmountable lead. Cruz Bustamante became the first Latino to be named speaker of the state Assembly, where nearly a third of the Democratic members are Hispanic. Nearly 1.4 million Latino voters, 13 percent of California's electorate, according to one survey, went to the polls and gave President Bill Clinton more than three-quarters of their votes.

"We feel very good about it," exulted Bob Mulholland, a top Democratic strategist here.

But Hispanic leaders caution that the Democrats hardly have a lock on their community. Even though Latinos voted more heavily Democratic and in larger numbers than ever before, that surge signifies less an overwhelming affection for the Democratic Party than a strong backlash against Republicans, analysts say.

The election, they note, turned in part on such issues as the cutoff of social services to immigrants and efforts to dismantle affirmative action programs.

"The Republican Party has done a very effective job of alienating what could be a natural constituency," said Arturo Vargas, executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund. "The question is, is the party going to mend its ways?" *(WP)*

Women-for-Clinton Now Line Up for Jobs

WASHINGTON — Women in the Democratic Party say it's payback time and they're looking for signs from the administration, preferably in the form of jobs for women, as a sign of gratitude.

About 100 women from inside and outside the administration, including the women's movement founding mother, Betty Friedan; the activist Eleanor Smeal; the undersecretary of agriculture, Jill Long Thompson, and a former Democratic National Committee member, Lynn Cutler, pressed their cause with Vice President Al Gore in a meeting this week at the New Executive Office Building.

Mr. Gore reportedly told them that he and President Bill Clinton "get it," that the 17-percentage-point gender gap would not be taken for granted and that the administration would stay in close touch with the women's groups. *(WP)*

Quote/Unquote

House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, Republican of Texas, on the first lady's professed interest in taking on a role in the administration's welfare-reform policy: "If Hillary Clinton does as well with welfare reform as she did with health care reform, we have no problem." *(LAT)*

Away From Politics

• **Fishing boats dragging for the last fragments of Trans World Airlines Flight 800** have had their contracts renewed for 75 days to ensure that no potential clue to the perplexing crash off Long Island is left behind. A spokeswoman for the National Transportation Safety Board said, "If they keep bringing stuff up, they'll continue to dredge." *(NYT)*

• **Dalmatian-suited dancers** shivered in subfreezing weather, and Bullwinkle soared over Broadway for the first time in years as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade celebrated its 70th anniversary in New York. *(AP)*

• **Tobacco companies were ordered to turn over their secret cigarette formulas** by the Minnesota Supreme Court as part of the state's lawsuit against the industry. The state and insurers are seeking evidence that tobacco companies manipulated nicotine levels to keep smokers addicted *(AP)*

• **The U.S. Postal Service,** citing its improved delivery performance and near-record profits, announced that about 63,000 postal executives, postmasters, supervisors and administrative employees would share $169 million of year-end bonuses on Dec. 20. The payment is the largest in the three years of Postmaster General Marvin Runyon's "pay for performance" incentive program. *(WP)*

• **An earthquake measuring 5.0** on the open-ended Richter Scale, followed by 33 significant aftershocks measuring up to 3.8 in just the first three hours, rattled the geothermal area of the Coso volcanic range in Inyo County, about 130 miles north of Los Angeles. No injuries or damage were reported. *(LAT)*

Judge's Ruling On Bias Law Causes Sparks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN FRANCISCO — Civil rights groups cheered the blocking of the newly passed California ballot initiative that would dismantle affirmative action, while Republican lawmakers attacked the federal judge who issued the restraining order.

"The absurd consequences of this ruling is that California can constitutionally only prohibit discrimination against some races but cannot constitutionally prohibit discrimination against all races," said Governor Pete Wilson, a Republican.

U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson said Wednesday that the initiative, which passed with 54 percent of the vote on Nov. 5, stood a good chance of being found unconstitutional. His temporary restraining order was issued following a lawsuit filed by civil rights groups challenging Proposition 209.

Mark Rosenbaum, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, hailed the ruling as a "tremendous victory that stops Proposition 209 in its tracks."

"Thanksgiving came a day early in California," he said. "The governor has had his race card removed."

Legal experts said court challenges to the measure could take years before reaching the U.S. Supreme Court.

Proposition 209 states simply: "The state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education or public contracting."

Despite its seemingly neutral language, the measure would effectively eliminate scores of affirmative action programs in state agencies and educational institutions.

Judge Henderson's ruling left little doubt that he was inclined, at this point, to accept the argument advanced by civil rights groups that the measure selectively bars women and racial minorities from seeking redress through affirmative action, while those seeking preferences on such grounds as age, disability or veteran status face no such barriers.

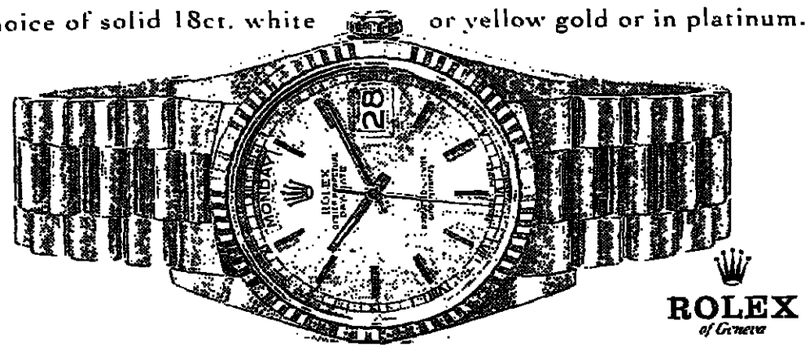
"In a case of this nature, the issue is not whether this court should reject or respect the 'will of the people,'" Judge Henderson wrote. "Rather, the issue is whether the challenged enactment complies with the laws of our Constitution and Bill of Rights."

His ruling drew angry denunciations from Assemblyman Bernie Richter.

"It is well known that this guy is probably the most leftist, whacko, liberal judge sitting on the bench in the United States," the Republican lawmaker said. *(LAT, WP, NYT)*

It speaks volumes about you, in 26 different languages.

The Rolex Day-Date displays the day of the week, spelt out in full, in a choice of 26 different languages. It is only available in a choice of solid 18ct. white or yellow gold or in platinum.



ROLEX
of Geneva

ASIA/PACIFIC

Jiang Opens Landmark Visit to India

Beijing Leader Urges Deeper Friendship

Reuters

NEW DELHI — The presidents of India and China said Thursday that friendship between the world's two most populous nations, which fought a brief border war in 1962, could be a key to world peace.

Shankar Dayal Sharma of India and Jiang Zemin of China spoke at a state banquet on the first day of Mr. Jiang's landmark three-day visit to India.

"The purpose of my current visit is to enhance understanding, deepen friendship, increase trust and promote cooperation," Mr. Jiang said on his arrival in India.

Mr. Jiang said he was convinced that the people of both countries "joining together" would be a great force and an important guarantee for Asian and world peace.

The two countries, home to one-third of humanity, fought a brief Himalayan border war in 1962, and troops are still deployed along both sides of the rugged line of control.

Only hours before the start of the visit, the first by a Chinese president to India, Tibetan demonstrators demanding that Beijing pull out of their homeland protested noisily in New Delhi.

More than 600 protesters burned an effigy of Mr. Jiang and the Chinese flag at a Tibetan refugee camp.

To keep delicate bilateral relations on track, both India and China were expected to avoid dwelling on the contentious issue of Tibet during official talks Friday.

The Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, who is based in India, urged Mr. Jiang to stop what he called Chinese repression in Tibet but distanced himself from the protests.

Mr. Jiang, accompanied to New Delhi by his foreign, foreign trade and civil affairs ministers and a 100-member business delegation, will meet Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral and business leaders.

"I am convinced that the Chinese and Indian peoples joining together will be a great force and an important guarantee for peace in Asia and the world at large," he said at the banquet.

"I can say for sure that our common interests far outweigh our differences, as neither of us poses a threat to the other," he added.

"The cooperation and friendship of Asia's two largest nations would be a powerful and enduring factor in promoting peace and stability in our continent and the world," Mr. Sharma said.

The Indian also made an apparent reference to China's friendship with Pakistan, India's traditional rival, saying New Delhi was concerned by actions that adversely affected regional security. Mr. Jiang will visit Pakistan after India.

India and China signed an agreement in 1993 to ease frontier tensions during a visit to Beijing by the prime minister at the time, P.V. Narasimha Rao.

In August 1995, India and China agreed to pull back their troops from four border posts in India's northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh, parts of which are claimed by China.

Zhiyuddin Abdullah/The Associated Press

LOCK AND LOAD — Taleban soldiers cleaning and oiling their assault weapons in the newly captured village of Kalakan, about 20 kilometers north of Kabul, as they prepared for new offensives.

BRIEFLY ASIA

Patten Reassures Travelers

TOKYO — Hong Kong passports will be treated differently from other Chinese travel documents after the British colony reverts to China in July, Governor Chris Patten said Thursday.

Mr. Patten, on a six-day visit to Japan that began Tuesday, said Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda "both assured me that the SAR passport would be treated differently from the PRC passport after July 1997."

He was referring to the document to be issued when Hong Kong becomes a Special Administrative Region of China and that of the People's Republic of China. *(AFP)*

Thais Agree on Cabinet Makeup

BANGKOK — Thailand's prime minister designate, Chaovalit Yongchaiyut, has finally come to an agreement with his coalition partners on cabinet allocations, a government official said Thursday.

Mr. Chaovalit and the five other parties in his coalition will submit the cabinet list Friday for the approval of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the official said.

His New Aspiration Party narrowly won a plurality in the Nov. 17 general elections. *(AFP)*

A Key Arrest in Philippines

MANILA — Police in the Philippines said Thursday they had arrested the commander of an urban death squad linked to the outlawed Communist Party.

Romeo Dacles, allegedly a commanding officer of a unit in the Alex Boncayao Brigade, was arrested Saturday in the province of Cavite, south of Manila, said the police director-general, Recaredo Sarmiento.

The military on Wednesday released the man they said was the leader of the brigade, Filemon Lagman. *(AFP)*

'Bandit Queen' to Face Charges

NEW DELHI — The Supreme Court has rejected pleas by India's "Bandit Queen," who is now a Parliament member, to throw out cases of murder and robbery against her.

The ruling by two justices late Wednesday cast doubt over the future of Phoolan Devi, who won a seat in the federal Parliament earlier this year by championing the cause of low-caste Hindus.

Miss Devi was accused of massacring 20 upper-caste men in 1981 in the village of Behmai, where she had earlier been held prisoner and repeatedly raped. *(AP)*

VOICES From Asia

Cui Tiankai, a Chinese government spokesman, calling for a nuclear nonaggression agreement modeled on one Beijing signed in 1994 with Moscow: "China would also like to have an accord with the United States in which the two countries would undertake not to resort to a nuclear first strike." *(AFP)*

Megawati Sukarnoputri, the Indonesian opposition figure, condemning the trial convictions of supporters on charges of disobeying police orders: "It was very clear from our defense and witnesses that it was not balanced and the facts were turned upside down." *(Reuters)*

Tokyo Police Chief Resigns Over Alleged Cover-Up

Reuters

TOKYO — The Tokyo police chief resigned Thursday over an alleged cover-up of circumstances surrounding the shooting of the national police chief after the nerve gas attack on the city's subways last year.

The chief cabinet secretary, Seiroku Kajiyama, said that Superintendent General Yukihiko Inoue, chief of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department, would step down over his department's handling of the attempted assassination.

The resignation will take effect Dec. 3, National Police Agency officials said.

For five months, Tokyo police investigators failed to report that one of their own officers had confessed to shooting the national police chief, Takaji Kunimatsu, outside his Tokyo apartment building on March 30, 1995.

He was shot four times from a distance of about 18 meters (20 yards) by a masked man as he left the building. After spending three months in the hospital he was able to resume his duties.

The officer who confessed to the shooting told investigators he was a former member of the Aum Shinrikyo cult, which is accused of having released nerve gas in the Tokyo subways on March 20, 1995. The officer had been assigned to the headquarters of the investigation into the subway attack.

The cult's guru, Shoko Asahara, is on trial for the subway attack, in which 12 people died and about 5,500 were injured, and on 16 other charges ranging from kidnap-murders to illegal production of drugs and weapons.

Tokyo police said the officer who confessed was dismissed Thursday but had not been arrested because of lack of evidence. He has not been identified.

Q & A / Chandrika Kumaratunga

Confidence in the Face Of 'High Expectations'

Although the Tamil Tigers' insurgency continues despite government military successes, President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga says that her government has turned around Sri Lanka's political dynamic and economic outlook. Largely educated in France, Mrs. Kumaratunga is the scion of one of Asia's political dynasties: Her father and husband were both the victims of political assassinations, and her mother is the prime minister in the current government, where Mrs. Kumaratunga herself, elected two years ago, holds the defense and finance portfolios. On a state visit to France this week, she spoke with Joseph Fitchett of the International Herald Tribune about rising political and economic hopes in her country.

Sarath Perera

Chandrika Kumaratunga

Q: You have strong resemblances with Benazir Bhutto, the ousted prime minister of Pakistan, even though she governed a Muslim nation. Do you see lessons there for yourself?

A: I feel a lot of sympathy for her because we are both women who have been subjected to political violence, and we both came to office with high popularity — and high expectations. The hopes mainly involved stopping political violence and wiping out the political corruption that plagued both our countries. Miss Bhutto tried hard, but the situation was so complicated that it may have been impossible for her government not to disappoint people.

In my country, we faced a military problem with the Tamil Tigers in part of the country and in the rest of the country illegal violence perpetrated by the previous government.

They ordered the assassination of political leaders, including my husband, but they also killed tens of thousands of unsung people, young people from democratic opposition groups, picked up at night in unmarked cars and their bodies left in piles in the streets.

Sir Lankans wanted an end to this, passionately, because — much more so than in Pakistan — we have had a long tradition of very liberal system, a tradition of freedom, without dictatorial rulers. So we stopped this violence in 24 hours after taking office, as we had pledged. We knew we could because it was the government that was doing it.

We have also made progress in weakening the ethnic insurgency. The Tigers have broken the cease-fire, but people have seen our goodwill, including a plan for extensive devolution of powers so that the Tamil people can live in equality and dignity.

You cannot win in a day or so, but what people want is confidence that the government will stick to its peace package — and we're showing that.

•

Q: Are you convinced that India has cut off aid to the Tamil Tigers?

A: Completely. India supported the rebellion materially and morally at a time when the Sri Lankan government had destroyed our relations. With more than 50 million Tamils in their country, Indians felt that they were seeing fellow-Tamils being murdered by the previous Sri Lankan government and felt obliged to act. The situation has changed here, and both the central government in India and the Tamil Nadu regional government have adopted a nonintervention policy.

Q: The Tigers, despite their military setbacks, remain one of the world's best-organized guerrilla organizations, and you are sometimes described as the world's most threatened leader. Do you feel that there are international policies that could effectively combat terrorism?

A: I certainly do: the decisions taken at the G-7 summit in Lyon. That package is sufficient if it is implemented. The key is not to let political refugees use their refugee status to engage in illegal collecting of arms and funds.

•

Q: Corruption, you said, was your other priority target.

A: And we have been very successful in stopping bribery by starting at the top. I know for a fact that corruption has gone at the presidential level and at the cabinet level — that's why I'm finance minister. I have to tend to these things myself because it's so important to bring back the culture of honesty.

Q: Do foreign companies appreciate your efforts?

A: Big Fortune 500 companies are coming in, even though military operations continue in the northern part of the country.

It's the first time we have attracted direct industrial investments, and companies say that they are attracted by our free market economy — started by the last government, the only good thing it did in 17 years — and the atmosphere of political freedom, where people can breathe freely, gives confidence.

Q: Are these Western values sometimes challenged by Asian values?

A: Realistically, the free market has become universal, and it implies democracy and human rights. Of course, every country has its own national ethos, but in the modern world, it's largely cultural, not a political system. When people talk about a conflict of values, I think it is an excuse that can be used to cover a multitude of sins.

REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE

Real Estate for Sale

Costa Rica

219 ACRES OF PARADISE! Coastal Mountain Property with magnificent views of the Pacific. Eco-Tourist project with lodging, restaurant/bar, pool, jacuzzi, horses & more. Near beaches. Turn-Key. Ideal for corporate retreat, family estate. Will entertain offers US$875K-$975K. For more information contact Bill Clay in USA Tel:(305)595-0866, Fax:(305)595-9732.

International Herald Tribune ads work

SWITZERLAND

For sale in Switzerland near Berne

Splendid 18th century country house

Main building with about 500 sq.m. of living area, underground car park, underground swimming pool and party room, staff house and guest house, large park and garden with ancient trees, about 34,000 sq m. of land, very good condition, bordering farm land and village.

Write to: Hans Leonz Notter,
Notter Blatter Davidoff & Partners, Attorneys at Law,
Schwanengasse 9, 3001 Berne, Switzerland.

U.S.A.

PHOENIX - SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
Invest in the most "Sophisticated City of the West"
1hr from L.A., Vegas, Grand Canyon.
The 3rd fastest growing area in the U.S. 150 Golf courses, 350 sunny days a year. Multiple Tax Advantages available. Fast & easy transfer of Ownership.
Patrick Marcus (602) 946-0650
John Hall & Associates, Inc.
Fax: (602) 946-6541 - Direct Permanent
7899 E. Granada Scottsdale, AZ 85257

SWITZERLAND

TAX HAVEN
CAMPIONE - Lake Lugano
For sale very elegant flats and villas with lake view.
immobiliare wehner
Tel.: ++4191 649 75 49
Fax: ++4191 649 63 45

Real Estate Investments

REAL ESTATE ADVICE CRETE
For real estate investments.
Traditional Cretan houses.
Land for hotels / apartments.
Phone us for any advice you need.
Tel. / Fax: +30/81/521089
Email:pnetsch@her.forthnet.gr

French Provinces

DORDOGNE - PERIGORD VERT Superb small castle, XIVth century, fully renovated, 9 rooms, 33 ha grounds. 50 km Perigueux (airport) 50 km Limoges (airport). Documentation on request. Mr Delauze Fax +33 (0)1 46 04 72 61

HAUTE PROVENCE, NEAR LUBERON. 5 acres of wooded land, buildable, top of hill, view, near typical village. FF290,000 Tel: +33 (0) 1 6439 7920.

BASEL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. 15 acre country property with buildings. Fax +41 62 721 31 81

EXCEPTIONAL NORMANDY ST GERMAIN DE MONTGOMERY
CHARACTER MANOR HOUSE
XVth century turrets, octagonal colombarium, listed historical monument, stables. Outbuildings including: Garage, stable, other building with room with fireplace and garage. Pond and farm. Overall area of 95 hectare.
Tel +33-1 34 29 39 27 or 34 29 53 74
OFFICE HOURS or Fax 01 34 23 03 61

XVIIIth CENT. BEAUTIFUL BASTIDE. 190 sq.m. on 3 levels, 300 sq.m. outbuildings, partially renovated. Exceptional view Luberon. 15 mn Aix en Provence. FF2.7M. Le Puy Ste Reparade. Owner Tel +33 (0) 4 42500391 Fax 42500399

French Riviera

FRENCH RIVIERA
ROQUEBRUNE CAP MARTIN: Unique 300 sq.m. apartment in one of the most beautiful "turn of the century" villa. Two hectares of secluded historic listed park leading to the sea. Spectacular view on the sea and Monte-Carlo.

PARK AGENCE
Le Park Palace
25 avenue de la Costa
MC 98000 Monte Carlo
Tel (377) 93 25 15 00
Fax (377) 93 25 36 33

FRENCH RIVIERA
CANNES
Close Croisette & shops. 3/4-room apartment, 110 sq.m. & 30 sq.m. terrace. 3 exposures. As new condition. Cellar, parking. FF1,950,000. Write: M DURAND, 30 Bd Eugene Input, F-06400 Cannes or Tel +33 (0) 4 93 94 27 22

40 km PERPIGNAN & SEA. 10 mins shopping. Splendid property of 70 ha. consisting of 2 historical buildings, "mas". Swimming pool, stables, independent buildings, prairie, moors, wooded area, springs, river with trout. Exceptional view. Absolute tranquility FF3.5M. Telefax +33 (0) 4-6839 5906 portable. 06 09 09 3487

Germany

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT in BERLIN Young, experienced property manager seeks additional properties from overseas clients. Phone: +49-30-88682098 Fax +49-30-88682081

Great Britain

HOMESEARCH LONDON LTD Let us search for you. We find homes / flats to buy and rent. For individuals and companies. The purchasers professionals. 7 days-a-week. Tel: +44 171 460 8442 Fax + 44 171 467 6445 mailbox:homesearch.co.uk/hom

LONDON CITY AIRPORT: Docklands Pad. direct to City. Lady journalist sells furnished 2 bed flat. Sedate historic building. Top security. Freehold. Only £60 annum charges. Good investment for £6,000. Fax Tel: 44 171 987 5490

Greece

REAL ESTATE ADVICE CRETE
25 km West of Iraklion
20,000 sq.m. land. 250 m. from sea. Ideal for hotel or bungalows.
Tel. / Fax: +30/81/521089

Italy

BARZANO (COMO-MONZA), apartment in the green, swimming pool, tennis court, very kitchen with view, fireplace, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, garden. Lit 350,000,000. Studio Elite Tel: +39 2 4800424.

Monaco

MONTE CARLO
"CHATEAU PERIGORD", 3-room apartment 107 sq.m. upper floor, in central residential building with large loggia, double parking and cellar
AGEDI
3 Bd des Moulins MC-98000 Monaco.
Tel 377-92 16 59 59 Fax 377-93 50 19 42

Paris and Suburbs

16th - TERRACE FACING SOUTH with OPEN VIEW. Approximately 210 sq.m. duplex with maid's room and parking, high class building on avenue. Tel 01 45 66 50 31 or 06 60 42 70 00

16th SOUTH, top floor, view of PARIS, 110 sqm. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, parking. FF2,200,000 Tel: 01 46 09 32 18

7th, BD ST GERMAIN 22 sq.m. 2-room all comforts, magnificent view. F400,000 negotiable Tel +33 (0) 1-4306 5753

5th, LATIN QUARTER, nr rue Mouffetard High class ready to move-in 46 sq.m. apartment entirely renovated in historical building with concierge and intercom. Fully furnished living room with antique fireplace, bedroom, hall, kitchen & bath. 1st floor, sunny, calm area, near police station & synagogue. FF1 million. Tel: +33 (0)1 69 82 03 05 Fax 69 83 17 44

VENA - SUNNY PENTHOUSE. PARIS 16th. View on Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe - 272 sq.m., 7 rooms, 4½ bathrooms. 157 sq.m. terrace. Maid's room. 3 garages. Call: BREFICO +33 (0)1 44 19 48 00.

FOR SALE LOFT-APARTMENT in a castle, outskirts of Paris (+/- 30 miles from center), nice park with trees & river, big interior volumes (110 sq.m. inside height: 5.5M). FF1,500,000. Tel: +33 (0)1-6950 1733. Fax: +33(0)1-6960 1805

6th, JARDIN DU LUXEMBOURG, rue Guynemer on garden. Luxurious 120 sq.m. modern flat fully renovated with balcony. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 shower room, large living and kitchen + parking. Direct owner +33 (0) 1 42 22 77 31

3rd, MARAIS Apartment for sale. Characteristic 170 sq.m. triple reception, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, luxurious fittings, parking. F3,700,000 negotiable. IMMOSOULT Tel 01 43 45 55 66.

AVE MOZART, freestone building, character. Excellent condition. About 46 sq.m. receptions, bedroom, equipped kitchen, bathroom, wc, fireplace, cellar, entrance F1,160,000. Tel. owner: 014224 6225

PARIS 11th, selling 3 room apartment, 60 sq.m., 2nd floor on courtyard, equipped kitchen, bathroom, fireplace, cellar, calm, sunny. Tel 01 42 05 96 39.

LUXURY APARTMENT 56 SQ.M., near Alma. Calm street, concierge. Entry, 2 rooms, fireplace, fine condition, 10 sq.m. cemented steel door cellar. Paris after 7pm 014723 5951 or 014748 1638.

EXCEPTIONAL VIEW ON THE SEINE & NOTRE DAME. (PARIS 4TH). Superb 3/4 rooms. High floor. F8,500,000. PLURIMMO Tel: 01 45 48 25 01.

FONTAINEBLEAU-AVON, near INSEAD. 83 sq.m. apartment in modern building. FF450K. Call JP Ruan 33-1 64 22 26 65 office hours, Fax 33-1 64 22 26 66

7th, MUSEE D'ORSAY. In townhouse, 18th cent., elegant 88 sq.m. court, trees. F2.5M or rent. Tel +33 (0) 1 4548 0131

EIFFEL TOWER - HILTON Double living + bedroom on garden/south. FF2.5 parking possible. Tel + 33 (0) 1 45 67 77 57

ILE ST LOUIS on Seine, facing south, lovely 90 sq.m., living, 2 bedrooms + maid's room. FF3,650,000. 01 4722 4766

ST GERMAIN DES PRES
PARIS 6th - high class - 2 rooms
65 sq.m. + 75 sq.m. terrace - VIEW
Underground parking, reduced fees
Patrick RANDI 01 45 55 22 00

MONTMARTRE 82 SQ.M. DUPLEX + 70 SQ.M. GARDEN, artist atelier living + 1 bedroom, HIGH CLASS FITTINGS, LOTS OF CHARM, QUIET. PERFECT CONDITION. Cellar & parking. FF2,650,000. Tel (0) 1 42 62 07 74 or 06 07 60 53 07

MEUDON View Paris/observatory. 50 sq.m. American kitchen, beams, re-done, cellar, parking F720,000. 014626 6954

Portugal

MARBLE. Vast marble properties in Portugal for sale. Tel: BRUSSELS (+32-2) 707.64.06

PORTIMAO. LUXURY HOUSE, 300 sq.m. Guesthouse 100 sq.m., golf course & pool. US$950,000. Tel: +46-8-590 36200 Fax +46-8-590 36255

Spain

MADRID Superb and unique beautiful palace. XVIII century. 8,000 sq.m. built plus 70,000 sq.m. of land. Write: Mr. Fernandez, Apartado 2311, Madrid 28002. Or Fax: 34 1 319 21 86

PENTHOUSE, 4 bedrooms, prestigious urbanization, near Marbella. UK co. owned. £300,000. Fax 34 5 288.51.97

Switzerland

LAKE GENEVA & ALPS
Sole to foreigners authorized over speciality since 1975

Attractive properties in MONTREUX VEVEY, VILLARS, DIABLERETS, CRANS-MONTANA, etc. 1 to 5 bed rooms, SFr. 200,000 to 3.5 mio
REVAC
52, Montbrillant CH-1211 Geneva 2
Tel 4122-734 15 40 Fax 734 12 20

OLD TOWN OF LAUSANNE. A unique charming 19th century property, 3-story house with exceptional garden and garden pavilion. Gallery attached to house. Newly renovated. Suitable for private and / or professional use. Tel: +41 20 320 3013

USA Residential

PALM BEACH WATERFRONT
Beautiful Intracoastal and ocean views. Prime luxury building, spacious 3,068 Sq. Ft., 3 bedrooms, $549K. Extraordinary offering..... Debra Kay (561) 691-4622 Sotheby's (561) 659-3555.

WASHINGTON D.C., (McLean) conveniently located 5 bedroom colonial, 2-car garage US$ 374,900 +1-703 536 6277

Real Estate for Rent

Great Britain

LONDON: DULWICH-HERNE HILL. Excellent for City/West End, luxury executive suites in Victorian house, cable. £60 per month. Tel: 44 171 737 1091

Holland

PENTHOUSE INTERNATIONAL
No 1 in Holland
for (semi) furnished houses/flats.
Tel: 31-20-6448761 Fax: 31-20-6405909
N'hoven 19-21, 1083 Am Amsterdam

Paris Area Furnished

Embassy Service
YOUR REAL ESTATE
AGENT IN PARIS
Tel: (01) 47.20.30.05

CAPITALE * PARTNERS
Handpicked quality apartments, all sizes Paris and suburbs
Tel: 01-4614 8211. Fax: 01-4614 8218
We help you best !

16th, 31 BLD SUCHET - Exceptional, luxuriously decorated: 130 sq.m., 4/5 rooms, 3rd floor + maid's room, cellar. Unbeatable price. Visit today: 1pm - 5pm or Monday: 10am - 12-noon. Owner.

16th, VICTOR HUGO-ETOILE, double living, 70 sq.m. apartment, 5th floor, renovated, elegantly furnished, sunny, quiet, all comforts, F12,000 net. 01-4500 9467.

DE CIRCOURT ASSOCIATES
Ideal accommodation: studio-5 bedrooms
Quality and service assured
READY TO MOVE IN
Tel 01-4753 8013. Fax 01-4551 7577

16th, TROCADERO, JEWEL studio, furnished. Terrace overlooking Eiffel Tower. Sunny, quiet. F4,950 net. 0142493262.

CHAMPS ELYSEES, LARGE STUDIO, new, luxurious and sunny. Tel: 01 45 62 93 32.

MARAIS 4th. Perfect plain-de-terre, 60 sq.m., 1 bedroom, living + loft, fireplace, beams. Tel: owner Belgium 32(2)351 0455

RENT OR SELL Brand new luxury flats in quiet areas. Paris & suburbs. Contact: Tel / Fax +33 (0)1 39 65 76 98

SPECTACULAR views from 3 balconies, fully furnished 2-bedroom penthouse in Les Halles. Ff11,000. Tel: 01 4221 0908

Paris Area Unfurnished

NEAR UNIVERSITE-DAUPHINE
Exceptional 7 rooms, 237 sq.m.
Large reception, 4 bedrooms.
F20,294 + charges. Collective heating.
Tel: 01.49.09.35.80.
GFF

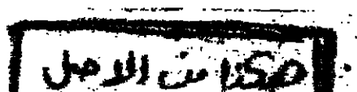
7th, SOLFERINO - OWNER RENTS individual HOUSE in excellent condition, 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 shower, dressing, equipped kitchen, F32,000 per month + garage. Tel: 01 45 51 21 34.

Switzerland

GSTAAD-SAANEN Beautiful chalet, antique furnishings, spectacular view. 5 bedrooms, 4 bath-rooms, (maids' quarters). 2 living rooms, dining room, 2 kitchens, 2-car garage. Big, beautiful terrace. Secure. Fax +41-33 744 9174. Tel: +41-33 744 8780, + 41-79-301 6000.

USA

SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA. Charming flat, furnished. December $1000. Tel: (310) 451-0398, USA.



EUROPE

Dutch Drug Tolerance Is Under EU Pressure

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The Netherlands is facing mounting pressure to abandon its liberal drug laws, as most of its European Union partners have lined up behind a French-led plan to wage a Europe-wide war against drugs.

The country's isolation, which was evident at a meeting of EU ministers of justice and interior affairs that opened here on Thursday, comes as a deep embarrassment to the government of Prime Minister Wim Kok and threatens to be a disruptive theme of the Dutch presidency of the Union that begins in January.

The Netherlands regards its distinctly tolerant attitude toward the sale and use of soft drugs as a source of national pride, believing it is responsible for one of Europe's lowest addiction rates. But the fight against drugs is one of the few issues that unites governments across Europe, and Dutch diplomats acknowledge that their government is likely to face intense pressure to close down, or severely restrict, the coffee shops that have made the country a mecca for Europe's marijuana users.

The immediate issue involves a proposed joint action calling on the 15 EU countries to harmonize their anti-drug legislation, toughen sentences for drug traffickers and increase cooperation between national police forces and justice authorities in combating drugs.

The proposal, which ministers were to debate Friday, was launched by France in September and quickly won the support of at least 13 EU countries.

Dutch officials initially sent positive signals on the action, but the government has mounted a last-ditch attempt to block or amend the plan in the past week following protests in Parliament in The Hague. Dutch legislators fear that the action plan's references to making laws "mutually compatible to the extent necessary to fight drug addiction," and to combating drug tourism, will lay the groundwork for a frontal assault on the country's entire drug regime.

"We are quite willing to cooperate with our partners to combat drug trafficking," one Dutch official said. "But we are not willing to close our coffee shops because of French pressure." Dutch diplomats have suggested striking out references to drug addiction and focusing the joint action strictly on trafficking, but have received little support.

President Jacques Chirac of France has made Dutch drug laws a prime target since he came to office in May 1995, claiming they have turned the Netherlands into a distribution center for the trafficking of soft and hard drugs into France. He personally upbraided Mr. Kok at an EU summit meeting in Cannes in June 1995, suspended plans to lift French border controls with six other EU countries in the so-called Schengen group and pulled out of a planned drugs summit meeting in Amsterdam earlier this year.

The Kok government responded to the pressures earlier this year by slashing the limit on sales of marijuana and hashish to five grams a customer from 30, and limiting the number of coffee shops licensed to sell. But it defended the principle of allowing controlled sales of soft drugs, introduced in the 1970s, saying it discouraged use of heroin and other hard drugs. Indeed, the country has 1.7 addicts for every 1,000 people, below France's rate of around 2.5.

To Dutch dismay, Mr. Chirac has persevered and gained numerous allies, including the current EU president, Ireland. Prime Minister John Bruton, under attack over drug crime since last summer's killing of the investigative reporter Veronica Guerin outside Dublin, wants to win approval of a raft of anti-drug measures — including the action plan — as a centerpiece of the EU summit meeting in Dublin on Dec. 13 and 14.

Antonio Bat/Agence France-Presse

NO TRAINS TODAY — A Croatian railroad worker crossing the tracks at an empty station in Zagreb on Thursday as the country's rail unions began a general strike over wage levels and overtime payments.

Serbian Marchers Seek Change — Any Change

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

BELGRADE — Wearing an oversized green felt hat and wrapped in a cozy overcoat, cheeks pink and eyes bright, Dusica Zivanovic is everybody's grandma. But she's a grandmother with a mission — to bring down the government of the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic.

"Red bandits!" the 55-year-old instructor of electrical circuit theory howled somewhat incongruously as she and thousands of other marchers passed the Ministry of Education building Thursday on the 11th straight day of protests against Mr. Milosevic's government.

"This government has destroyed our reputation around the world," Miss Zivanovic said as she marched side by side with students half her age. "Yugoslavia, the Serbian people used to be respected. Now we are a pariah. We are poor. We have nothing left."

Poverty, hopelessness and a fatally wounded sense of pride have propelled tens of thousands of people onto the streets of Yugoslavia's capital and in several cities across this country over the last week. The largely peaceful protests mark the biggest and most sustained challenge to Mr. Milosevic since he seized power in Serbia in 1987 and set this region on a course to war.

The protests were sparked by Mr. Milosevic's move to overturn the victory in elections on Nov. 17 of opposition political parties in Belgrade and 14 other major cities throughout Yugoslavia. Courts loyal to Mr. Milosevic tossed out results in some cities and local election commissions, also controlled by the Serbian president, refused to announce results in others.

The government held new elections on Wednesday in Belgrade and other cities where the opposition appeared to have been victorious. An opposition coalition, Together, called on its supporters to boycott the vote. On Thursday, not surprisingly, the government announced that the ruling Socialists had won those polls.

But the marches symbolize much more than discontent with democracy Serbian style. A deep sense of dissatisfaction is felt by many Serbs with the corrupt and inept system that has ruled their lives for the last nine years. Many protesters expressed the belief that their country is unfixable as long as Mr. Milosevic and the coterie of smugglers and Communist apparatchiks that surrounds him maintain control of Yugoslavia.

"I am tired of living in a post-Communist society," said Milan, a 19-year-old freshman in the electrical engineering department of Belgrade University. "I just want to live in a normal country. Is that so hard?"

Significantly, however, the protesters in Belgrade, mostly students and white-collar workers, teachers, doctors, engineers and lawyers, do not appear to be marching in support of anything specific, just against the Milosevic government.

This cloudy focus has complicated the task of opposition leaders who are trying to coordinate the protest. They said they were reticent about calling on workers to strike, for example, because they do not want to inconvenience the marchers with transportation stoppages or closed stores. They also fear that the workers will not heed such calls.

The opposition is further hampered by its own internal splits, between Serb nationalists, Western-leaning liberals and those who are nostalgic for Communist Yugoslavia.

"People just want something positive to happen," said Zoran Djindjic, the head of the opposition Democratic Party and the man who would have been mayor of Belgrade if Mr. Milosevic had let the results stand.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

Major Won't Bargain With IRA

LONDON — Prime Minister John Major said Thursday that he was not prepared to change British government policy and bargain with the Irish Republican Army or its political arm, Sinn Fein, over a new cease-fire in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Major told Parliament the government was not trying to erect new hurdles in the path of the peace process.

But he said there was no chance of Sinn Fein's joining multiparty peace talks until IRA guerrillas fighting to unite Ireland "unequivocally restored" the cease-fire that was broken in February. *(Reuters)*

Sweden to Search for Jewish Gold

STOCKHOLM — The World Jewish Congress said Thursday that the Swedish government would help it look for evidence of unclaimed Jewish assets dating from World War II, possibly including looted gold.

Israel Singer, secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress and chairman of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, said he had received assurances of this in Stockholm from Foreign Minister Lena Hjelm-Wallen.

The president of the congress, Edgar Bronfman, said in Oslo this week that "a lot of money" had been deposited in banks in Sweden by victims of the Holocaust.

"If I didn't think there was something left here, I would not have come," Mr. Singer said Thursday. "Yes, we do believe there is money, even gold here." *(Reuters)*

Spanish Public Sector to Strike

MADRID — Civil servants in Spain have called a strike for Dec. 11 to protest against the government's planned pay freeze in the public sector, a union spokesman said Thursday.

The unions said they had rejected a last-ditch offer to avert the strike by the conservative government, which promised to raise salaries in 1998 and 1999 to compensate for a pay freeze in 1997 it said was necessary to help Spain prepare for European monetary union. *(Reuters)*

Lobby Decries North Sea Fishing

LONDON — Politicians, lobbyists and scientists joined forces in Britain on Thursday to demand curbs on industrial fishing in the North Sea, warning that food stocks as well as wildlife were being seriously hit by excessive fishing.

Their call came with the publication of a report, funded by the British-Dutch consumer-products conglomerate Unilever Group, that showed industrial fishing — which turns fish into oil and feed — was eliminating much of the main food source for fish. It was backed by Scottish members of Parliament, Greenpeace and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. *(Reuters)*

Mladic Gives Up Serb Command

Washington Post Service

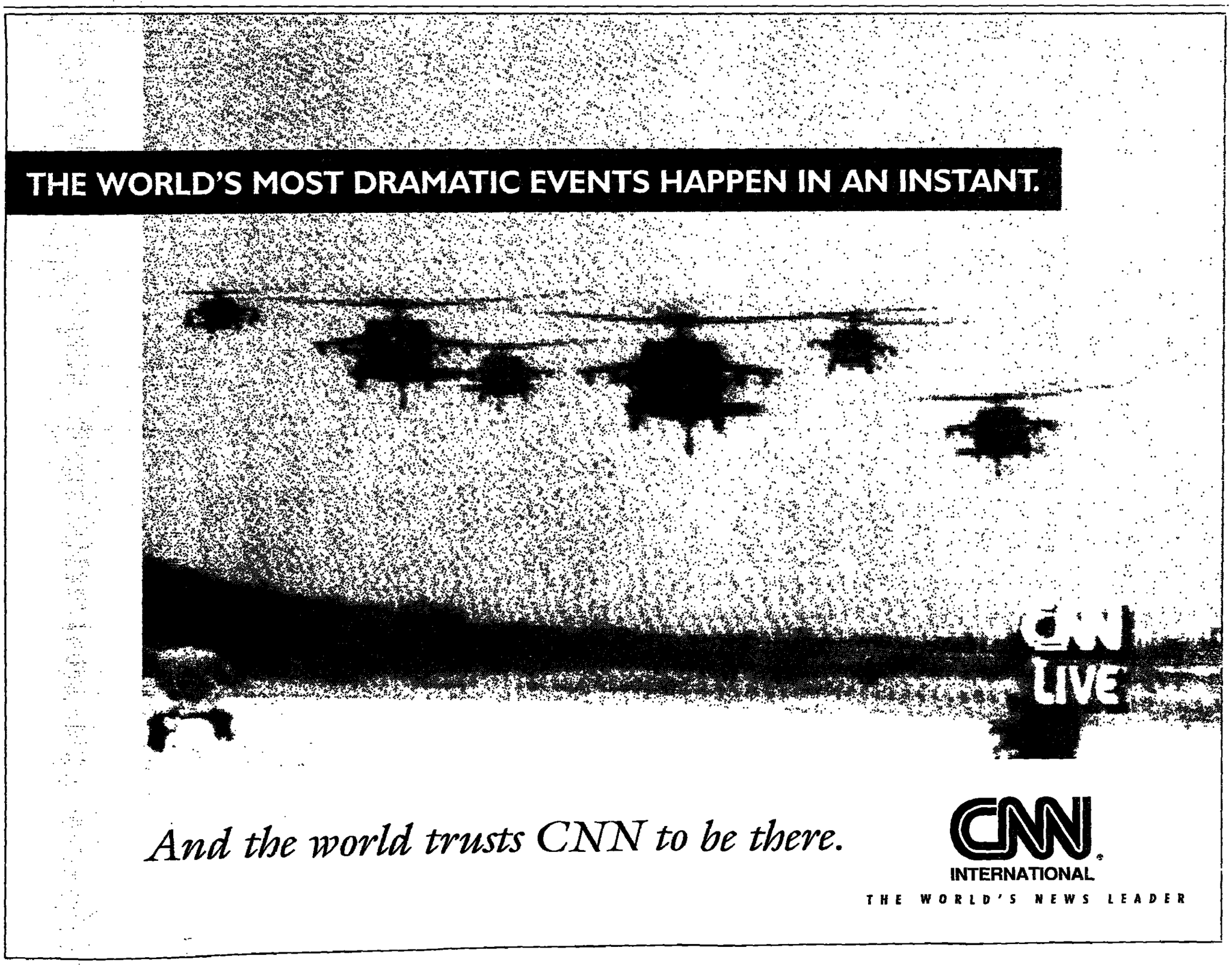
BELGRADE — General Ratko Mladic formally gave up leadership of the Bosnian Serb army on Thursday in Pale, the Bosnian Serb stronghold.

General Mladic, who is wanted by international war crimes prosecutors on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity, buckled to pressure from Bosnian Serb political leaders and Western powers.

His decision, however, did not necessarily end a 19-day stand-off between the military and the political leadership over the future of the general and the leadership of the military.

The former Yugoslav People's Army colonel, promoted to general during the fighting in Bosnia, said he was replaced by General Manojlo Milovanovic, his former chief of staff. But a Nov. 9 order by the Bosnian Serb president, Biljana Plavsic, named Pero Colic, a little known retired colonel, as commander.

It is unclear whether General Mladic is any closer to facing war crimes charges in The Hague.



Officer Charged as Spy Is Treated Soviet-Style

Case Tests Russian Political Freedom

By Michael R. Gordon
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — It began with an early-morning knock at the door.

Alexander Nikitin, a researcher for a Norwegian environmental organization and a former Russian naval officer, was still asleep. But the security police insisted that he quickly dress and come along.

Mr. Nikitin had no opportunity to alert friends or colleagues. The telephone line at his St. Petersburg apartment had been turned off.

"It was in the best tradition of the KGB," Mr. Nikitin's wife, Tatiana, recalled recently. "They said that it was just an interrogation and my husband would be back soon."

Instead, Mr. Nikitin was charged with treason for helping to publicize radioactive contamination caused by the Russian Northern Fleet. Denied bail, he has been in a former KGB prison for nine months.

His case has emerged as a test of the limits of political freedom in the new Russia. It also raises serious questions about Russia's ability to overcome its long history of masking mistakes behind a veil of official secrecy and to deal openly with decades of environmental abuse and neglect.

Amnesty International, the human rights group, has listed Mr. Nikitin as a "prisoner of conscience." It is the first time the organization has charged Moscow with holding a political prisoner since Andrei Sakharov, the late nuclear physicist, was sentenced to internal exile during Soviet times.

Russian human rights advocates worry that the case has sent a disquieting signal that Russian citizens who work closely with Western human rights or environmental groups may be at risk.

"If that is the lesson that is learned, that may not be all bad," said Colonel Sergei Vasiliev, a spokesman for the Federal Security Service, an heir to the old Soviet KGB, that is spearheading the case against Mr. Nikitin.

The man at the heart of the political and legal struggle is a gaunt, 44-year-old retired navy captain who worked for 11 years as an engineer on Soviet nuclear submarines and later served as a nuclear inspector for the Defense Ministry.

After leaving his Defense Ministry post in 1992, Mr. Nikitin tried his hand at various jobs and applied to emigrate to Canada before becoming a consultant to the Bellona Foundation, a Norwegian environmental group.

Established after the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine in 1986, Bellona has concentrated on northwestern Russia, where submarine accidents, overburdened radioactive storage sites, submarines taken out of active service and the ocean dumping of nuclear waste have spurred fears of nuclear pollution.

According to Bellona, the Northern Fleet operates 67 nuclear submarines and 2 nuclear-powered battle cruisers. An additional 52 nuclear submarines have been retired, but are in storage in the area, still equipped with their nuclear fuel. In all, 18 percent of the nuclear reactors in the world are in that area.

Frederic Hauge, the managing director of Bellona, said in a telephone interview from Oslo that Bellona had developed a good working relationship with the Russian authorities in Murmansk.

But not everyone in Russia was happy with the collaboration, or with Bellona's plan to document the navy's role in contaminating the seas.

In October 1995, police officers from the Federal Security Service raided the Bellona office in Murmansk and confiscated "everything there," Mr. Hauge said. Undaunted, Bellona sought to reconstruct its research, which it has published this year in a report on "The Russian Northern Fleet."

Mr. Nikitin helped prepare a chapter on Soviet nuclear submarine accidents, drawing on articles published in the Russian press, according to Bellona.

But on Feb. 6, Mr. Nikitin was arrested and charged with treason for revealing state secrets — a crime punishable by 10 to 15 years in prison, or even death. The arrest came a day after Canada approved Mr. Nikitin's request to emigrate there.

Bellona's activities in Russia have been restricted. The Russian government recently refused to give Bellona representatives permission to travel to St. Petersburg, where they could help Mr. Nikitin's lawyer work on his case, or to Murmansk.

The Russian Customs Service also seized 1,500 copies of Bellona's report, describing it as "forbidden literature."

Colonel Vasiliev, the spokesman for the security police, said that the charges against Mr. Nikitin were "purely criminal" and that his defense was trying to give the case a "political coloration." The nuclear pollution near Russian shores may have been caused by U.S. submarines, Colonel Vasiliev said without further explanation.

But a senior Western official said that there appeared to be a "retributive" motivation beyond the charge on the part of the Russian security apparatus, which was embarrassed by growing concern over environmental contamination by the once-proud Russian fleet.

Boris Pustintsev of Citizens' Watch, a Russian public interest group that argues for tighter controls on the security police, said, "It is an effort of certain xenophobic forces to isolate Russians from the West."

Some aspects of the case seem Kafkaesque.

For six weeks, Mr. Nikitin resisted the authorities' demand that he use a lawyer chosen by the security police. After an appeal to the Constitutional Court, he won the right to choose his own lawyer. But he has repeatedly been denied bail.

Mr. Nikitin's lawyer, Yuri Schmidt, said the information in the Bellona report was available in published sources and was important to the debate over environment issues. As a result, he said, the information could not be considered secret under the Russian Constitution and state secrets law.

But the prosecution has argued that these laws were superseded by two secret decrees on classified information, which the government has refused to make public or provide to the defense.

Colonel Vasiliev also said that the security police could not state precisely which portions of Bellona's report contained secret information. That, he said, would also be a violation of security procedures.

Mr. Nikitin's wife is even more worried that the security police are trying to build a case that Mr. Nikitin is mentally unsound. "Specialists have been invited to investigate him from the psychiatric point of view," she said.

A trial date has yet to be set. Delaying the trial to next year could help the defense because a new legal code will come into effect then, with a less vague formulation of what is to be considered espionage.

Mr. Schmidt said West European groups had been more vocal than the United States in protesting the case.

"I have never heard anything from the U.S. administration," Mr. Schmidt said.

But a senior U.S. official said Washington had conveyed its concerns to the Foreign Ministry in Russia.

Mr. Nikitin's supporters have also begun to pin their hopes on Anatoli Chubais, President Boris Yeltsin's pro-capitalist and media-conscious chief of staff. They hope he will advise Mr. Yeltsin to end the prosecution.

Reuter Haldert/Agence France-Presse

A FRAGILE CALM — A woman crossing a street barricaded by troops and armored personnel carriers, which were deployed around the government palace in Beirut on Thursday after opposition groups called a general strike to defend freedom of expression and to protest the government's social policy.

Canada Set To Move on Aid to Zaire

Wide Support Claimed Despite Local Outcry

Reuters

OTTAWA — Canada said Thursday that it had enough support to push ahead with the initial steps of an international aid mission for eastern Zaire, despite opposition from Zaire's government to a key part of it.

External Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy of Canada said at least 15 countries including the United States had agreed to participate in the first stage, and that a "steering board" would be convened Friday to give confirmation.

"At that time, we are quite confident that the proposal that we made to move forward, to give us a more active presence of the international force, will be launched," he said.

Canada is leading an international effort to get aid to what Western officials say is at least 200,000 refugees and perhaps hundreds of thousands more in strife-torn eastern Zaire, in addition to Zairians displaced in their country.

Two parts of the latest Canadian proposal are to set up a military headquarters at Entebbe, Uganda, and to pursue organized reconnaissance to determine how many people need what.

The third is "to develop the capacity for air delivery of supplies so that where the humanitarian organizations felt there was a need and couldn't reach large numbers of people, there would be that air capacity," Mr. Axworthy said.

It was a carefully chosen set of words that appeared to leave open the possibility of not actually dropping food by air if opposition from aid groups, which prefer truck convoys, and Zaire proved insurmountable.

But Mr. Axworthy made two points in response to the declaration by Zaire's information minister, Boguo Makeli, that the government was categorically opposed to food drops and that it would not authorize flights intended for such purposes.

"I'm not sure he speaks for the government — as you know, things in the country are very confused, and who speaks for what are a question mark," Mr. Axworthy said.

He added that, in any case, the UN Security Council's authorization of an international force to assist in the return of refugees and in the delivery of aid was called for under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

That article allows member countries to proceed with air, sea or land operations to maintain or restore international peace and security in carrying out Security Council tasks.

Canada has voiced the frustration of many with the delays in mounting aid to refugees. "There is still an ongoing tragedy," Mr. Axworthy said.

In Kinshasa, Mr. Boguo said that "the Zairian government is categorically opposed to the Canadian proposition to drop foodstuffs for refugees and displaced Zairians."

Mr. Boguo said Zaire was worried about the safety of airdrops and the fact that they would be staged from neighboring countries it accuses of aggression.

Aid workers, meanwhile, poured scorn on the plan, saying the proposal was expensive, dangerous and full of holes. Many said air drops would require good intelligence on the whereabouts of the refugees and some presence on the ground to ensure that supplies reached refugees in need instead of Hutu militiamen or Zairian troops.

The airdrop plan "is a demonstration of the impotence and desperation of the international community," a Nairobi-based aid worker said. "How do you airdrop supplies when you have no clue as to the whereabouts of the people you are supposed to be helping?"

Paul Rand, a Leading Designer Of Corporate Logos, Dies at 82

By Steven Heller
New York Times Service

Paul Rand, a seminal figure in graphic design who created innovative visual identities for some of the major corporations and book and magazine publishers in the United States, died Tuesday in Norwalk, Connecticut. He was 82.

The cause was cancer, said his wife, Marion Swannie Rand.

Mr. Rand is perhaps best known for the corporate logos he designed for IBM, Westinghouse, American Broadcasting Co. and United Parcel Service. He also created posters, packages and textiles and illustrated children's books.

Mr. Rand advanced the cause of modernism in graphics as a professor at Yale University and as an author.

In the 1930s, when American commercial art and advertising were dominated by hard-sell copy and realistic illustration, Mr. Rand introduced the formal vocabulary of European avant-garde art movements of the 1920s to business communications and publishing.

He was one of only a few U.S. designers to lay claim to the modernist traditions of Cubism, de Stijl, Constructivism and the Bauhaus, and was influential in bringing what was called the New Typography — the rejection of archaic and sentimental type and layout treatments — to the United States.

Elrey Jeppesen, 89, Pilot Who Pioneered in Navigation

NEW YORK (NYT) — Elrey Jeppesen, 89, an aviation pioneer, died Tuesday at his home in Denver. He made his first solo flight in 1923 at the age of 16. When the U.S. government began registering pilots in 1928, it was Orville Wright who signed Mr. Jeppesen's first license. He later became a pilot for United Airlines.

Navigation was so problematic when he started flying that he bought a 10-cent, loose-leaf notebook to keep detailed records of the locations of water towers, smokestacks and other landmarks and for sketches showing the approaches to the airports he visited and the location of pastures that could be used for emergency landings.

That notebook became the foundation document for the Jeppesen Airway Manual, used by every commercial pilot in the United States and 90 percent of pilots around the world. The main terminal at Denver International Airport is named after Mr. Jeppesen.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

TODAY'S
REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE
Appears on Page 4

Announcements

BAREME AS 24
AU 29 NOVEMBRE 1996
Prix Hors TVA en devise locale
(traduction disponible sur demande)
Remplace les baremes anterieurs

FRANCE (zone C) en FFA - TVA 20,6%
GO: 3,84 FOD*: 2,35
SC97: 5,32 SCSP: 5,16

UK zone B en L/I - TVA 17,5% (food 8%)
GO: 0,5694 FOD*: 0,3459

ALLEMAGNE (zone I) DM/I - TVA 15%
ZONE I - E :
GO: 1,10
ZONE II - I :
GO: 1,10 SCSP: 1,40
ZONE III - F :
GO: 1,05 SCSP: 1,42
ZONE IV - F :
SCSP: 1,38
ZONE IV - G :
GO: 1,09 FOD: 0,65

BELGIQUE en FBI - TVA 21%
GO: 22,64 FOD*: 11,44
SC97: 32,23 SCSP: 30,25

HOLLANDE (zone2) NLG/I - TVA 17,5%
GO: 1,277

LUXEMBOURG en LUF/I - TVA 15%
GO: 20,00

ESPAGNE (zone A) en PTAS/I-TVA 16%
GO 85,98
SC97 101,64 SCSP 103,28

* Usage reglementé

Personals

MAY THE SACRED HEART of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. Saint Jude, worker of miracles pray for us. Saint Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Amen. Say this prayer nine times a day, by the ninth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. U.K.

Moving

AGS INT'L MOVING
A.G.S PARIS +33 (0) 1-4080 2020

Auto Rentals

RENT AUTO DERGI FRANCE
24 HOURS: FF186 - 7 DAYS FF 1500
Tel 01 45 67 27 04

Legal Services

DIVORCE 1-DAY CERTIFIED
Call or Fax (714) 968-6635 Write 16787 Beach Blvd. #137, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 U.S.A - e-mail : wstorm@juno.com

DIVORCE IN 1 DAY. No travel. Write: Box 377, Sudbury, MA 01776 USA. Tel: 508/443-8387, Fax: 508/443-0183

Business Opportunities

OFFSHORE BANKS
INSURANCE BANKS
COMPANIES & TRUSTS
ASSET PROTECTION
IMMIGRATION/PASSPORTS
TRADE-FINANCE
ASTON CORPORATION
TRUSTEES LTD
19 Peel Road, Douglas, Isle of Man
Tel: 01624 626591
Fax: 01624 625128
London Tel: (171) 222 8866
Fax: (171) 233 1519.
E Mail No. aston@enterprise.net

OFFSHORE COMPANIES
*750 READY MADE COMPANIES
* BANK INTRODUCTIONS
* ACCOUNTING, LEGAL & ADMIN
* LC'S & TRADE DOCUMENTATION
* TELEPHONE*E-MAIL*FORWARDING
Telephone or fax for immediate service and 100 page colour brochure
OCRA ASIA LIMITED
24-02 Bank of America Tower
Harcourt Road, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 25220172
Fax: +852 25211120

OFFSHORE COMMERCIAL BANK FOR SALE.
With Class A license and correspondent bank relationship. Includes a tax-free holding company, a U.S. subsidiary with New York City offices, and a U.K. subsidiary with London offices. Immediate acquisition. 100% control. US $60,000
FINANCE MERCHANTS GROUP
Nassau Tel. (242) 394-7080
Fax. (242) 394-7082.
London Tel/Fax 44 181 539 8245

IMMIGRATION OPPORTUNITIES
Obtain Permanent Residency, 2nd Citizenship & 2nd Passport via Economic Investment. 100% legal Government Programs, starting at $28,000, issued in 30 to 180 days. Funds held in Escrow until you receive your documents.
INTERNATIONAL ATTORNEYS S.A
CARIBBEAN: Fax +(599) 299 587
or Fax +(599) 290 684
E-MAIL: INTATT@AOL.COM

OFFSHORE COMPANIES. For free brochure or advice Tel London 44 181 741 1224 Fax 44 181 748 6558/6338 www.appleton.co.uk

Business Services

Lowest Int'l
TelePhone Rates!
Call The USA From.

Germany	$0.33
UK	$0.25
France	$0.33
Switzerland	$0.36
Sweden	$0.25
Saudi Arabia	$0.89

Call For All Rates
25% Commission
Agents Welcome!
KaliMart
Tel. 1-407-777-4222 Fax 1-407-777-6411
http://cyan.com/kalimart

Kallback
Offers
Lowest Rates
Ever!
Enjoy even greater savings on international calls. Benefit from the same low rates 24-hours a day. We secure the clearest and most reliable lines. Use Kallback from home, work or hotels and save.
Call now and save more today!
Tel 1-206-284-8600
Fax 1-206-282-6666
Lines open 24 hours.
Agents inquiries welcome!
kallback
417 Second Avenue West
Seattle, WA 98119 USA

GENEVA
SWITZERLAND
Full Service
is our Business
* International law and taxes
* Mailbox, telephone, telex and telecopier services
* Translation and secretarial services
* Formation domiciliation and administration of Swiss and foreign companies
* Furnished offices and conference rooms for daily or monthly rental
Full confidence and discretion assured.
BUSINESS ADVISORY SERVICES S.A.
7 Rue Mucy, 1207 GENEVA
Tel 736 05 40. Tlx 413222. Fax 786 06 44

World-Wide Business Centres Network ®
START YOUR BUSINESS TODAY!
Fully equipped and serviced offices. Secretarial, translators and personalized telephone service in: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland
Please contact: Sales Office in Zurich
Tel. +41-1 214 62 62
Fax +41-1 214 65 19
E-Mail: 101527.3011@compuserv.com

YOUR OFFICE IN LONDON
Bond Street - Mail, Phone, Fax, Telex
Tel. 44 171 499 9192 Fax 171 499 7517

Financial Services

FUNDING PROBLEMS?
VENTURE CAPITAL
EQUITY LOANS
REAL ESTATE
Long term collateral
Supported Guarantees
(Commission earned only upon Funding)
Bankable guarantees to secure funding for viable projects arranged by:
BANCOR
OF ASIA
Fax (63-2) 810-9284
Tel: (63-2) 894-5358
Brokers Commission Assured

PRIME BANK
GUARANTEES
Venture Capital Finance Available for Government Projects and Government Companies that are for sale.
Large Projects our Specialty
Also: Long Term Finance for Large and Small Companies No commission Until Funded
REPRESENTATIVE
Needed to act as Liaison
Please reply in English
VENTURE CAPITAL CONSULTANTS
Investment bankers
16311 Ventura Blvd., Suite 999
Encino, California 91436 U.S.A.
Fax No.: (818) 905-1696
Tel.: (818) 789-0422

Serviced Offices

Your Office in Germany
we are "at your service"
* Complete office services at two prestige addresses.
* Fully equipped offices for short term or long term.
* Internationally trained office and professional staff at your disposal.
* Can be legally used as your corporate domicile for Germany/Europe.
* Your business operation can start immediately.
* Since 1972.
Lairco Business Services GmbH
Lairco-Haus am Holzhausenpark
Holzhausenstrasse 22
60322 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Tel (69) 95515-0
Fax (69) 595770

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE
Herald Tribune
Contact the Paris office:
Tel.: (33-1) 41 43 93 85
Fax: (33-1) 41 43 93 70
E-mail: classified@iht.com

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

Escorts & Guides

BELGRAVIA
ORCHIDS
LONDON - PARIS
THE FINEST & THE MOST SINCERE
18 - 36+ INTERNATIONAL
BEAUTIFUL & ELEGANT STUDENTS
SECRETARIES, AIR HOSTESSES & MODELS +
AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS
BEVERLY HILLS
NEW YORK
SERVICE WORLDWIDE
Escort Agency Credit Cards Welcome
TEL: LONDON ++ 44 (0)
0171 589 5237

ATLANTIC
LONDON PARIS USA
EVERY MAJOR CITY WORLDWIDE
++ 44 (0) 7000 77 04 11/2233
++ (1) 212 765 1919
kiss@at-star.com
http://www.at-star.com

BRUSSELS
V.I.P.
First Class Escort Service in the Capital of Europe. Any style any language available for all occasions: dinners, evening-parties, weekends, welcoming at the airport & limousine with driver. All credit cards accepted. 24h/24, 7 days a week.
PHONE: (+32.2) 646.30.93
FAX: (+32.2) 646.71.86
E-mail:internet.brussels.vip@infoboard.be

EUROPEAN MODELS
the most exclusive Escort Service, world wide only International Models available!
LONDON+PARIS+MONACO+MADRID
STOCKHOLM+GOTEBORG+HELSINKI
GENEVA+ZURICH+MILANO+ROME
BRUSSELS+COPENHAGEN+CYPRUS
ISTANBUL+ATHENS+OSLO+LISBON
DUBAI & AREA+AMSTERDAM & whole GERMANY + UNITED STATES + ASIA
Office Europe: ++43-1-796 21 59
Office New York: 212 287 3953 cards

INTERNATIONAL ESCORTS
World's First & Most Exclusive Service
Models, Beauty Queens, Actresses
Multilingual Travel Companions
Hdqtrs. 212-765-7896 NY, USA
Service worldwide. Credit cards, checks accepted. View videos & photos in office.

LONDON'S MOST EXCITING 24 HR INTERNATIONAL ESCORT SERVICE
VENUS IN FURS
0171-362 7000
All cards * Advance bookings welcome

AMSTERDAM * DREAMS * ESCORTS
Dinner Date Service for Him and Her.
+31 (0) 20-64 02 111 / 64 02 666

SWITZERLAND + GERMANY
Tel.: ++31-20-427 28 27
ZURICH-GENEVA-BASEL-BERNE
NEW: LONDON - BRUSSELS - VIENNA
COSMOS Escort Agency. Credit Cards

ISABELLA AQUINAS
PRIVATE ESCORT SERVICE
TEL: LONDON 0171 486 5789

CLAUDIA ESCORT SERVICE
LONDON & PARIS
TEL: 0171 937 4781

ANGELS
PRIVATE ESCORT SERVICE
Tel: London 0171 586 4705

ARISTOCATS Escort Service
3 Shouldham St. London W1
0171 258 0080

*** EUROCONTACT*** INT'L ESCORTS
PARIS*STOCKHOLM*BRUSSELS
RIVIERA*MILAN* ROME*VIENNA
GENEVA*ZURICH* whole GERMANY
Call Service Vienna +43-1-21204 31

HEIDI'S HIGH SOCIETY*VIENNA*PARIS
COTE D'AZUR & ZURICH * GENF
International Escort & Travel Service
Vienna ++43-1-5354104 all credit cards

CHELSEA ESCORT SERVICE
91 Beauchamp Place, London SW1
Tel: 0171-584 6513

GENEVA PRETTY WOMAN
BASEL, LAUSANNE, MONTREUX
Call 022/346 00 89 Escort Agency
* ZURICH LUZERN 01/4632334

BERN, BASEL, ZURICH
ESCORT SERVICE.
+41/77/880505 OR 77/880660

EXECUTIVE CLUB
LONDON ESCORT SERVICE
TEL: 0171 722 5008 Credit Cards

EXECUTIVE SERVICES-EBONY
Escort Service - NYC
Tel: 212-991-0569-Open Daily

*****FIVE STARS ESCORTS
EDUCATED, CHARMING & PRETTY
Service FRANKFURT 069-552221

FRANKFURT-COLOGNE-DUSSELDORF
WIESBADEN-MAINZ-HEIDELBERG
Gabi's Escort Service +49(0)171-6311805

LONDON HEATHROW GATWICK
JAPANESE ESCORT SERVICE
0956 572543/0956 401164

*** MADRID HARMONY ***
EXCLUSIVE Top Escort Service. English
Tels: +34 1 396 35 88 or 908 81 80 64

MEENA'S "INDIAN" ESCORT SERVICE
Warm, Classy, Cultured & Educated
0171 286 3956/0976 612596 (Cards)

NICKY Charismatic, Beautiful
Private Escort Service
Kensington 0171 792 0881

"SANDY" - WARM & FRIENDLY
Private Escort Service. London W1.
Tel: 0171-935 2525

SOPHIE STUNNING, Tall, Classy, Black Model. Elite Private Escort Service.
Tel: 0171 370 7779 All Areas

TANYAS PRIVATE ESCORT SERVICE
BLACK, Beautiful, Elegant & Educated
London/Heathrow 0181-906 2261 Cards

Temptations Escort Agency
London & Paris 0171 535 1031
Travel Service All of Europe

VICTOR/VICTORIA
Breathtaking Private Escort Service.
Kensington 0171 370 3934

ممكن من الاصل

INTERNATIONAL

Countries at Odds In Salinas Inquiry

Swiss Ask Return of Bank Records

By Julia Preston
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — Swiss and Mexican prosecutors investigating the finances of Raul Salinas de Gortari, the scandal-embroiled brother of the former Mexican president, have fallen out as a top Swiss official accused Mexico of misusing confidential Swiss banking information.

In an Oct. 11 letter to Attorney General Antonio Lozano Gracia of Mexico, Switzerland's highest federal prosecutor, Carla del Ponte, protested Mexico's use of secret information about bank accounts belonging to Mr. Salinas to prosecute him and others for tax fraud.

Switzerland had provided the information to the Mexican authorities. But Mrs. del Ponte said Swiss law stipulates that Swiss banking information should not be used to punish financial or tax violations. The information, she said, was to be used only to determine whether Mr. Salinas's Swiss funds came from the laundering of narcotics money.

In the letter, a copy of which came to light this week, she asked Mr. Lozano to send all the Swiss-banking records back to her.

The stakes are high for both Mrs. del Ponte and Mr. Lozano.

Mrs. del Ponte has undertaken a campaign to crack down on international drug traffickers, tax cheats and corrupt politicians who use Switzerland's bank secrecy to hide illicit gains. But she has been criticized by Swiss bankers, who assert that she opened splashy cases but failed to come through with convictions.

Mr. Lozano is under fire in Mexico for failing to achieve results in several major cases, including the Salinas case. Mr. Salinas is in a Mexican jail on charges of graft and tax fraud and has also been accused of masterminding the 1994 slaying of a prominent politician.

On Nov. 15, 1995, Swiss authorities froze accounts belonging to Mr. Salinas that contained at least $110 million, and arrested his wife, Paulina Castanon, and her brother Antonio as they opened a safe-deposit box containing false documents that Mr. Salinas used to open the accounts. Mrs. Castanon and her brother were released a month later without charges.

The Swiss acted after U.S. and Mexican narcotics officials asked them to monitor several bank accounts suspected of being used for drug money laundering.

One day after Mrs. Castanon's arrest Mexico asked Mrs. del Ponte for information about the accounts based on a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration document describing a "suspicious" 1991 transaction for $6 million. The Swiss gave Mexico a wealth of information.

More than a year later, Mexico has brought no narcotics charges against Mr. Salinas. But the Swiss bank information leaked to the Mexican press and forced several prominent Mexican executives to admit they had done hidden business with Mr. Salinas. Last week Mexico opened a nondrug-related international money-laundering investigation against Mr. Salinas.

Mr. Salinas's brother, former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, gave testimony Wednesday to the special prosecutor in the 1994 assassination of a Mexican presidential candidate.

■ **Ex-President Quizzed**

The questioning of former President Salinas in Dublin was his first by Mexican federal investigators since he left Mexico in disgrace 20 months ago, the Los Angeles Times reported from Mexico City.

The former president was questioned, in connection with the 1994 assassination of his handpicked successor, Luis Donaldo Colosio.

Mr. Lozano, the Mexican attorney general, and the Mexican foreign secretary confirmed that prosecutors had questioned Mr. Salinas for 12 hours at the Mexican Embassy in Dublin, where the former president has been living in self-exile for several months.

Mr. Salinas "answered an extensive interrogation and delivered a document that will be added to the investigation" into the March 1994 slaying, a joint government communiqué stated.

Burma Faces Delay In ASEAN Entry

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Following a political crackdown in Burma and strong criticism of the military regime by the United Nations, leaders of the Association of South East Asian Nations are expected to delay Burma's entry into the group when they meet Saturday.

While the delay will be justified on economic grounds, diplomats said Thursday that ASEAN also had to take account of the damage Burma's entry could do to the group's international reputation, especially its relations with the United States and Europe.

"ASEAN wants to achieve a united Southeast Asia and knows that it can never do so if its members interfere in each other's internal affairs," an Asian diplomat said. "But admitting Burma too hastily, when repression has recently been increasing, not decreasing, would inevitably tarnish ASEAN's standing."

Burma's military government was rebuked Thursday by a United Nations General Assembly panel, which accused it of suppressing opposition, using forced labor to build the economy, torturing prisoners, abusing women and conducting summary executions. Earlier this week, President Bill Clinton sharply criticized the Burmese regime's refusal to move toward democracy.

The seven members of ASEAN — Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — have agreed in principle that Burma should join the group. It was expected that Burma would be admitted in 1997.

The other two countries in Southeast Asia, Laos and Cambodia, are set to join ASEAN next year, and Burma has indicated that it would like to do so at the same time.

General Than Shwe, the head of Burma's military government, arrived in Jakarta on Thursday accompanied by the military intelligence chief, Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, and six members of the cabinet, to attend the meeting as observers.

The timing of Burma's entry will be one of the main issues discussed by ASEAN heads of government when they hold their informal summit meeting Saturday in Jakarta.

The Philippines, Thailand and Singapore have indicated recently that they have reservations about Burma's joining ASEAN in 1997.

Thailand's incoming prime minister, Chaovalit Yongchaiyut, said Tuesday that he wanted to tell the Burmese military that the world had changed and that it was time to change with it.

Singapore's prime minister, Goh Chok Tong, whose country has made heavy investments in Burma, said this month that he did not think that Rangoon was ready for full membership of ASEAN on economic grounds.

The Philippines' position, expressed Wednesday by President Fidel Ramos, is that Laos, Cambodia and Burma must go through a "step-by-step" process of membership.

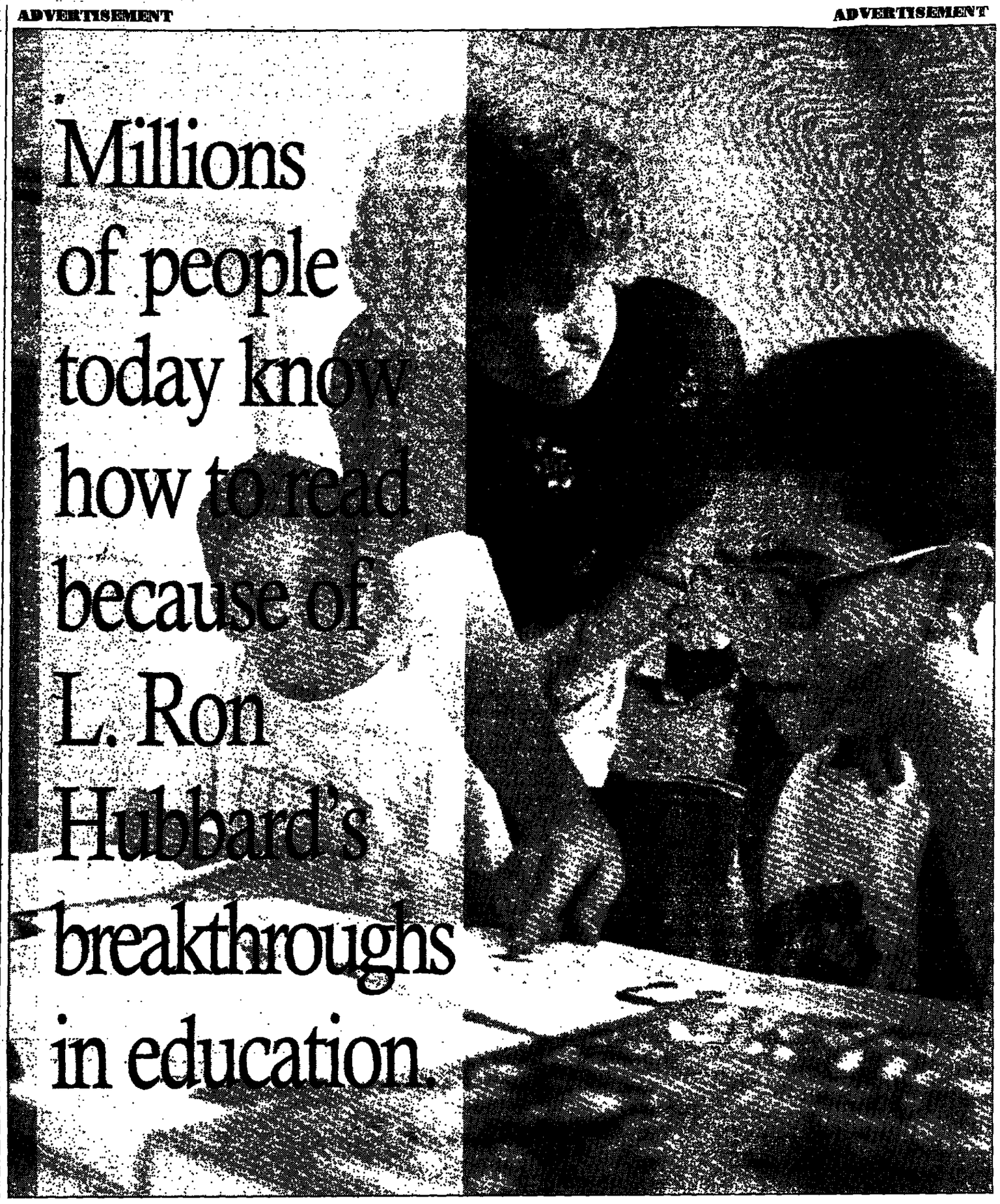
Mr. Ramos suggested that each prospective member could take the basic steps of seeing if it could conform to ASEAN's goal of lowering tariffs and other trade barriers "so that a really free and open" market in the enlarged group would result.

ASEAN is committed to form a free-trade area in which tariffs on most products would be cut to between zero and 5 percent by 2003.

Burma, which has a highly protected economy, has become a major issue for ASEAN since the military government in Rangoon began a new crackdown in April on the Nobel Peace laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy opposition group.

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT



The founder of the Scientology religion, L. Ron Hubbard, observed that if one truly understood what he read and heard and could make himself understood by others, all of life would be open to him. In the 1960s and 1970s, he researched why some people are unable to learn and comprehend. By isolating the causes, he solved the problem of illiteracy.

Today, Mr. Hubbard's educational methods are successfully used in Church-sponsored literacy projects around the world. To date, more than 3 million people have participated in 215 such literacy projects.

Some examples:

■ In Brixton, England, 8 to 13-year-old students gained an average of 1.3 years in reading age after only 10 days.

■ In a project in Los Angeles, high school students tested after a forty-hour period of classroom instruction in Mr. Hubbard's educational methods revealed an average gain of more than two years.

■ Since the inception of Church-sponsored programs in South Africa and Zimbabwe in 1975, more than 3,700 teachers and 29,000 students have been trained in the application of Mr. Hubbard's study methods.

■ A further 1.5 million individuals in Southern Africa have attended seminars providing an introduction to these learning skills.

Mr. Hubbard's contributions in the field of education have brought literacy and the ability to succeed in life to children and adults across the globe.

David Rodier, Professor of Philosophy of Language in Washington, D.C., described one of Mr. Hubbard's principal texts in this field by saying, "In a time of widespread illiteracy ... this is a brilliant book by a brilliant mind. In fact, it is a revolution in thought."

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Check the following Internet sites for information about Scientology. Each is available in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish:

http://www.scientology.org
http://www.lronhubbard.org
http://www.dianetics.org
email: webmaster@scientology.org

VISIT OUR CHURCHES: Pay a visit to your nearest Church of Scientology. Addresses for our principal European Churches are given here.

FREE INFORMATIONAL BOOKLETS AVAILABLE: You can obtain the address of the local church nearest you, and a free booklet about Scientology, by calling (33) 1 43 74 61 68. Or write to Church of Scientology Ile-de-France, 7, rue Jules César, 75012 Paris, France.

Austria
Schottenfeldgasse 13/15
1070 Wien, Austria

Belgium
Church of Scientology
European Human Rights
and Public Affairs Office
61 Rue du Prince Royal
1050, Brussels, Belgium

Denmark
Storekongensgade 55
1264 Copenhagen K, Denmark

France
7 Rue Jules Cesar
75012 Paris.
France

Germany
Berchstrasse 12
80802 Munchen.
Germany

Italy
Via Aberdone. 10
20137 Milano, Italy

Netherlands
Nieuwe Zijds Voorburgwal 271
1012 RL Amsterdam.
Netherlands

Norway
Lille Grensen 5
0159 Oslo.
Norway

Portugal
Rua Actor Tabora 60 5°
1000 Lisboa. Portugal

Spain
C Montera 20 10 dcha.
28013 Madrid. spain

Sweden
Gotgaten 105
11662 Stockholm, Sweden

Switzerland
Badenerstrasse 141
8004 Zurich. Switzerland

Great Britain
68 Tottenham Court Rd
London, England W1P 0BB

Church of SCIENTOLOGY

THIS MESSAGE WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTOLOGISTS

© 1996 Church of Scientology International. All Rights Reserved. SCIENTOLOGY and the Scientology Cross are trademarks and service marks owned by Religious Technology Center and are used with its permission. SCIENTOLOGIST is a collective membership mark designating members of the affiliated churches and missions of Scientology. 1197 (1)

هكذا من الأصل

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Costs of Communism

For years the West knew that the Communist world was lagging, but not until the Iron Curtain shredded did it become clear just how poorly the Communist economies had performed: how hollow were their armies, how tinny their automobiles, how dismal their standards of living. Now, half a decade into those countries' struggle to catch up, several economists have quantified how much time the socialist experiment cost them — and how many years they will need to recover.

In 1937, Czechoslovakia was more prosperous than Spain or Greece and nearly on a level with Austria, Italy and Ireland. After two generations under communism, Czechoslovakia remained the most prosperous of the East bloc nations, but it was now poorer than the poorest of Western Europe, its standard of living barely a third of neighboring Austria's.

Every other Communist nation similarly lost ground.

According to three economists at the International Monetary Fund (Stanley Fischer, Ratna Sahay and Carlos A. Vegh), Czechoslovakia's average per capita income, if it had followed normal West European growth patterns, would have approached $16,000 by 1992. In fact, it fell short of $7,000. Although the other East bloc countries started and ended the socialist era at different levels from the Czechs, they all "lost" at least $9,000 in annual income per person, the study found.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, many East bloc nations — including now separated Slovakia and the Czech Republic — have embraced economic reform and begun to grow faster than the economies of Western Europe. Yet the IMF study and a similar analysis by Jeffrey Sachs and Andrew Warner at Harvard suggest that it will take these nations more than two decades to even approach Western standards of living, and that is assuming that they do everything right in terms of economic policy, a very large assumption. Two generations of failed economics, in other words, cost them at least a generation of lost income.

These are speculative numbers, of course; economists cannot say for sure what would have been any more than they can predict what will be. But the numbers do make you wonder — about Russia, for example, which started further behind and spent three generations under communism, not two. And about those most responsible for these economic travesties — the Communist apparatchiks and high-level central planners who seem to be thriving in the transition, while ordinary people go on paying for their mistakes.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

The Same Milosevic

Western efforts to rehabilitate the image of Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian dictator who bears prime responsibility for unleashing four years of bloody war in the Balkans, were badly damaged by Mr. Milosevic himself this week. By brazenly voiding municipal elections in which his Socialist Party was soundly defeated by an opposition coalition, this political survivor of the Communist era has made it difficult for any Western government to say he is a changed man.

Washington should continue to exclude the Milosevic regime from European and international institutions until there is real evidence that it has reformed its ways.

Mr. Milosevic has pursued a more moderate line on Bosnia since shortly before the Dayton accords, earning him Western gratitude and relief from most wartime economic sanctions. Limited diplomatic cooperation with him remains a necessity so long as Western troops remain in Bosnia.

But he is an opportunist, not a peacemaker. He has been conspicuously uncooperative in achieving nonmilitary aspects of the peace agreement, like the arrest of war criminals or guarantees of electoral fairness.

Moreover, as he made plain this week, he has no use for democracy in his own country. Serbia, like the Yugoslav Federation it belongs to, holds regular elections, but the rules that assure free and fair choices elsewhere in Europe are trampled by the Milosevic regime.

Despite these obstacles, an opposition coalition managed to triumph in runoff elections earlier this month in 15 of Serbia's 18 largest cities, including Belgrade.

Besides revealing Mr. Milosevic's growing unpopularity, the victories raised hopes of breaking his stranglehold on information, since Serbia's municipal governments own television and radio stations, magazines and newspapers. Instead, courts controlled by the regime annulled the vote, sending tens of thousands of Serbs into the streets in angry protests.

Some demonstrations turned violent on Wednesday, as the elections were rerun, this time without opposition parties taking part.

Mr. Milosevic's rule does not appear immediately threatened, although similar protests signaled the end of nearby Central European Communist regimes in 1989. The Serbian leader continues to be a necessary diplomatic partner. But Western countries should not embrace him too closely.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Mischief on the Net

To the lengthening list of ways in which people in cyberspace behave pretty much as they would elsewhere, you can add the peculiar and legally unresolved issue of trademarking your Internet address.

Trademarking your address? Off the Net, you wouldn't think it a burning priority. But, like actual business logos or products, Internet domain names — the strings of letters that follow the symbol in e-mail or the "www" portion of Web addresses, such as "washingtonpost.com" — are the visible flag of an organization's presence in cyberspace, the first thing an outsider or browser sees. As such, they can be trademarked.

But it's more complicated than that, first because the single group handling the trademarking is small and new at it, and second because, while an organization can trademark a chosen variation of its name (in a much argued example, mcdonalds.com), nothing formally can prevent an unrelated individual or potential troublemaker from registering something similar (say, mcdonalds.org or bigmac.com) and luring people to sites that may be, at the least, uncomplimentary. Such cases can be taken to court, but the results so far are foggy.

The Chronicle of Philanthropy ran a funny story canvassing the reactions of various nonprofit organizations that have run afoul of this problem. The American Civil Liberties Union, at http://www.aclu.org, has not figured out what to do about a group that has reserved the site http://www.aclu.com for a parody web site that describes itself as belonging to the "Association of Crying Liberal Underachievers."

Then there's People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, whose trademarked web address includes its acronym, PETA, but is being plagued by someone who reserved the domain name "peta.org" for an organization he calls "People Eating Tasty Animals." A spokesman for the ACLU told Washington Post reporter Paul Demko that the group was uncertain whether to move against the rogue addressers, because it might appear hypocritical for an organization dedicated to free speech rights.

PETA general counsel Jeffrey Kerr was a lot more emphatic, telling Mr. Demko, "We don't think making fun of cruelty to animals is an appropriate use of the Internet, and certainly not of these domain names."

Even those who want these uses stomped out admit that they are a hydra-headed menace, with new variations turning up as quickly as the old ones can be protected by law.

Some observers see a more serious problem. They charge that a few troublemakers are registering addresses similar to large companies' brand names, with the intention of wringing large sums out of those companies to release them.

Network Solutions Inc., the private trademarking company to which the National Science Foundation handed the responsibility last year, is too small to be dealing with such vast problems. Some actual court cases may, improbably, prove welcome.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

ESTABLISHED 1887

KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER
Co-Chairmen

KATHARINE P. DARROW, Vice Chairman

RICHARD McCLEAN, Publisher & Chief Executive
MICHAEL GETLER, Executive Editor

• WALTER WELLS, News Editor • PAUL HORVITZ, Deputy News Editor
• KATHERINE KNORR and CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Deputy Editors • SAMUEL ABT and CARL GEWIRTZ, Associate Editors • ROBERT J. DONAHUE, Editor of the Editorial Pages
• JONATHAN GAGE, Business and Finance Editor
• RENE BONDY, Deputy Publisher • JAMES McLEOD, Advertising Director
• JUANITA I. CASPARI, International Development Director • DIDIER BRUN, Circulation Director.
Directeur de la Publication: Richard McClean

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France. Tel. (1) 41 43.93.00. Fax: Circ. (1) 41.43.92.10; Adv., (1) 41.43.92.12. E-Mail: iht@iht.com

Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson, 5 Canterbury Rd., Singapore 0511. Tel. (65) 472-7768. Fax: (65) 274-2334. Mng. Dir. Asia: Rolf D. Kreyenbuhl, 90 Gloucester Rd., Hong Kong. Tel. 852-2922-1188. Fax: 852-2922-1190. Gen. Mgr. Germany: T. Schisler, Friedrichstr. 15, 60323 Frankfurt/M. Tel. (069) 72 67 35. Fax: (069) 72 73 10. Pres. U.S.: Michael Connor, 850 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel. (212) 752-3890. Fax: (212) 755-8785. U.K. Advertising Office: 63 Long Acre, London WC2. Tel. (171) 836-4802. Fax: (171) 240-2254. S.A.S. au capital de 1.200.000 F. RCS Nanterre B 732021126. Commission Paritaire No. 61337.

© 1996, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved. ISSN 0294-8052

Some Journalists Risk Their Lives to Do the Job

By Jim Hoagland

NEW YORK — Not even his highly developed sense of the absurd could have prepared Mohammed Amin for the strange death he met last Saturday. The photojournalist was among at least 127 people killed when an airliner ran out of fuel over the Comoros and crashed after three incoherent hijackers ordered the pilot to fly to Australia.

It was the kind of story Mr. Amin should have been covering, not getting involved in. But then, rules never did mean much to the man known as Mo throughout East Africa.

You probably did not know his name. But you knew his images. A familiar figure on Third World battlefields where he worked as a television cameraman and photographer, he played an essential role in drawing global attention to famine in Ethiopia in the 1980s.

The footage that changed history almost did not make it on the air. Producers in New York did not want to tie up expensive satellite time with a story on starvation in Africa. But a producer in London, overwhelmed by the horror that Mr. Amin had captured, fed it onto the satellite anyway, and the images changed the network's mind.

A crisis in the Horn of Africa was not complete without his filmed record. He was almost killed in covering the overthrow of Ethiopia's Marxist regime in 1991 when an ammunition dump blew up near him and tore off an arm.

I lived in Nairobi in the early 1970s and came to know Mr. Amin then. In many respects, he was representative of the engaging, enterprising East African Asian minority that vigorously but uncomfortably occupied the middle ground between the African majority and the British settlers in the colonial era.

The "Asians" were the shopkeepers, small restaurant owners, clerks, plumbers and skilled artisans of colonial East Africa. Most were squeezed out of their businesses after independence.

But a business career did not interest Mr. Amin. Taking pictures in dangerous circumstances and places did.

Africa became a big, dangerous story. Like much of the Third World, it also became inhospitable territory for Western-style investigative reporting.

The dedication of journalists like Mr. Amin, or Zambia's Lucy Sichone, or Turkey's Ayse Onal, can simultaneously inspire admiration and shame in American journalists, who risk little more than loss of access to insiders for criticizing their government.

Lucy Sichone, a columnist with The Post, a Lusaka daily, had to go into hiding with her 3-month-old daughter this year to avoid arrest and a jail sentence that would have destroyed her family. A widow with four children, she continued to write while in hiding. Eventually, international support for her led the Zambian government to drop its trumped-up charges.

Her story caused normally hard-bitten U.S. media types to go misty-eyed last week when she was honored in New York by the International Women's Media Foundation.

Mr. Onal, who was shot and wounded for exposing corruption in Turkey, and Saida Ramadan of Sudan, who has faced harassment, assaults and threats for criticizing the Islamic fundamentalist government in Khartoum, were also given Courage in Journalism awards at that ceremony.

This week four other awards for similar courage and commitment were given to Third World newsmen by the Committee to Protect Journalists. One recipient, Ocak Isik Yurtcu of Turkey, had the perfect excuse for not attending the ceremony: He is in prison for his coverage of human rights abuses.

What connects these cases? A consistent mix of bravery, stubbornness and an awareness by these journalists that what they do makes an enormous difference in their societies, where power relationships between rulers and ruled are still in flux and the nature of politics is still being defined.

Journalism as practiced in America, for all its flaws, has long been the global ideal. But the media in America are increasingly dominated by commercial and entertainment values focused on conquering or seducing markets. Today it is the work of Mohammed Amin, Lucy Sichone and many others abroad that serves as inspiration and challenge to their American colleagues.

The Washington Post.

'Global Economy' Looks Like an Old Story With Bad Endings

By Richard Reeves

BRIDGEHAMPTON, New York — This is a great time to buy wooden furniture. At a big discount store here you can get good-looking heavy wood kitchen or dining room chairs for $39 and $49 dollars, and tables for $99 to $199.

The design is "Old American," in the manner of the rickety but beautiful hundred- and two-hundred-year-old Windsor chairs and farm tables. I just bought a bunch of the stuff, wondering exactly how they can sell it for these prices.

Well, actually, I do think I know. I think I saw my chairs when they were still logs on the docks of Jakarta. A little tag under the seat says "Made in Malaysia." One way or another, the wood is from old forests being ravaged in Southeast Asia.

Indonesia has 13,000 islands, many uninhabited by anyone but the timber cutters. The rubber plantations of old Malaya are being leveled. Vietnamese troops are taking out trees in their country and in Cambodia and Laos. It was exactly the same in white pine forests of Michigan in the mid-19th century.

"A majestic order reigns above your head," a visitor to the Michigan pine forests wrote. "In a few years these impenetrable forests will have fallen, the noise of civilization and of industry will break the silence of the Saginaw."

From 1860 to 1890, 23 million board-feet of lumber were carted or floated out of the valley of the Saginaw. The take was $4 billion, a billion more than all the gold dug out of California.

That done and forgotten, one now deplores the same impulses in Asia — ecology, child labor, unrenewable resources and all that. There will be a onetime harvest and then denuded, scrubby land for decades.

This is "the global economy." It was endorsed this week by the president of the United States in chats with Asian leaders, including the president of China. Behind the rhetoric of human rights and all that, Bill Clinton let the Chinese know that we Americans know all about onetime bonanzas.

China can do whatever it wants as long as Boeing and Disney and Rupert Murdoch get their piece of the action in the coming Chinese buying spree, another onetime thing, as the largest country attempts once more to make the great leap to modernity.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher came home a day before the president to go on television and patiently explain that while human rights and democracy are always paramount considerations, they are only part of the story. Business is the plot line.

He gushed over the new Shanghai, the towers and hotels rising behind the waterfront. For some reason, he did not mention that the population of central Shanghai was driven out to make room for the foreigners trying to make a buck before the country closes up again.

He also did not mention that tens of millions of Chinese roam the country, congregating around railroad stations in a bewildered chase after the action.

Having said that, the fact of the matter is that Americans cannot make China, or its leaders, do anything that they do not want to do.

We talk to ourselves too much. It is ludicrous to think that the folks in charge of the Middle Kingdom for this moment of history are going to allow freedom of assembly or freedom of the press because editors of The New York Times and syndicated columnists think that would be nice.

The Chinese are not nice, and neither are we, even when we are doing our Bill of Rights numbers. Free markets, not free press, are what we want.

This new wave of global capitalism will roll on unless there is political revolt by the losers in the great game, losers who include downsized, benefitless, pensionless Americans or their mirror image, benefited but unemployed West Europeans. This is the way it will be until there is trouble in the streets.

In America, at least, the winners have once again forgotten that "progressive" attitudes toward labor and the welfare state itself were not gifts to the masses but payoffs to keep them quiet and not come and kill us.

Writing in last summer's issue of Foreign Affairs, the director of studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, Ethan Kapstein, pondered the impact of new technologies and the global scramble for cheaper and cheaper labor, then warned that we might be repeating the mistakes that led from the Industrial Revolution to depression and two world wars.

"Workers became commodities like grain and coal, creating a world of urban poverty, creating a political cauldron."

Over time, "special interest groups have become entrenched around a particular set of policies — reduced deficits, reduced spending, reduced taxes, and that most exalted of deity, low inflation — [that favor] financial interests at the expense of workers ... The world may [again] be moving inexorably toward one of those tragic moments that will lead future historians to ask, why was nothing done in time?"

Universal Press Syndicate.

Tell Us About Nations Getting Ahead Together

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — The United States, alone, opposes re-election of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali, because he blocks America's will to make the United Nations America's tool for dominating the world, alone, writes Eric Rouleau, a former French ambassador, in Le Monde Diplomatique.

In his account of 14 years as presidential foreign affairs adviser, "The Worlds of François Mitterrand," Hubert Védrine repeatedly complains of U.S. determination to run the world.

It isn't only the French. In country after country, on every continent, more or less well-informed analysts sound the same theme. The United States is not only the sole remaining superpower, it allegedly insists on trying to run everybody and everything.

Americans don't hear that. They hear resentment that it took the United States so long to put troops into Bosnia; that it rammed through badly prepared elections so as not to have to leave too many there, for too long; and that then, reluctantly, Americans felt relief that Canada agreed to take the lead when it seemed that only an important international force could save hundreds of thousands of lives in Zaire.

Americans argue over whether they have any serious national interest to justify being involved in these places and in other horrifying but distant and unfamiliar crisis spots. They ask why they should always be the ones whose response others await.

Some denounce the United Nations as an incipient world government that wants to run the United States. Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, writes in the super-serious and prestigious quarterly Foreign Affairs that America should pull out of the United Nations and go its own way.

Less powerful figures spread rumors about UN helicopters flying around America reconnoitering in preparation for an invasion and takeover. They warn adamantly against allowing foreign generals to take command of American troops at any level. (They pay no attention to the fact that many Europeans are in the NATO chain of command above American units.)

Foreign and American perceptions are not just different, they are opposite. It is another unresolved legacy of the Cold War, when most Americans accepted a vital national interest in opposing the Communists everywhere, and when allies mostly accepted that U.S. leadership and support were vital to their interests.

Then President George Bush sought to define another era by calling for "a new world order." That was widely misunderstood outside America as a declaration of U.S. intent to impose its order on the world.

President Bill Clinton began his first term with a pledge to seek "multilateralism," which was taken in America as willingness to submit to foreign machinations, and outside as abdication of America's responsibilities.

Both presidents were talking about the same world. It is hard to imagine more contradictory ideas of how it actually works, or could be made to work.

"Globalization," welcomed or feared, is an economic and technological reality. But there has barely started to be a better sense of how national states, rubbing against each other, can fit into it to mutual benefit.

Henry Kissinger, writing eloquently as usual, persists in urging the 19th century concept of balance of power as the way to keep the world on a reasonably even keel, as though the terrible 20th century were not evidence enough of how such a balance is bound to break down. Now there are nuclear arsenals to make repeating the lesson apocalyptic.

The perceptions and the realities seem to be growing increasingly divergent.

It is not a matter of seeking a new vision. The outlines of what is possible and the needs are clear enough. Major problems are now too big and too complex for any country to solve by itself. No country can refuse to take others into account and expect to live with even minimum comfort on its own.

It is trite, but true, to say that sovereign independence is a frayed myth. "Domination," if that were still possible, is scarcely desirable, since the last half-century has shown that there are better, cheaper ways to achieve national well-being. In any case, national well-being can be sought now only by consent through the compensating advantages of trade, investment, mutual security.

But the old ways of thinking of the nation as having somehow to conquer or be conquered continue, even at levels capable and prideful of intellectual sophistication. The United States is by no means immune from the ailment.

People who don't spend their time focusing on international sustain the feeling, but so do many who do understand that this old approach is obsolete and counterproductive.

It would help if their leaders and opinion-makers would stop and reconsider — make the effort to explain clearly what they know in fact but find it inconvenient, supposedly unpopular, to admit.

© *Flora Lewis.*

Asian Connection, Continued

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — As postelection revelations come spilling out about more illegal fund-raising and many more unrecorded meetings of the Asian Connection in the Clinton White House, the need arises to connect the dots.

The accusation was first made in this space that an Indonesian banking family and its agent, working secretly with Clinton intimates Webster Hubbell and Bruce Lindsey, arranged for apparently unlawful contributions, through fronts and other subterfuges, to Clinton campaigns.

In return for these millions in donations and retainers, the foreign bankers (1) gained frequent access to Bill Clinton to argue for trade concessions; (2) achieved appointment of their agent to a top secret post inside the administration and received weekly phone calls from his Commerce Department office; (3) used the president's presence on his Asian trips to profit by impressing local politicians with their White House influence.

Thus was the making of American foreign policy corrupted at the core.

My charges were parried before the election, with a farrago of lies from the White House. Bruce Lindsey was the source of disinformation that James Riady, scion of Indonesia's Lippo empire, had met with President Clinton only a few times on "social visits."

Not until after the election did we get the admission that Mr. Clinton had met Mr. Riady at least six times in the White House, plus an unknown number of times privately after fund-raisers outside, and at least once alone in the presidential limousine.

Social visits? After re-election, Mr. Clinton admitted discussing foreign trade issues with his Indonesian contributors in the Oval Office, and said he was aware that Mr. Riady would take his messages to Indonesia's President Suharto. Mr. Clinton's benefactor helped end U.S. trade pressure for human rights on Indonesia and China.

And now, postelection, we find that John Huang briefed his former Lippo Bank employers at least 70 times in 18 months from his Commerce Department office phone.

Most damning of all is the Sept. 13, 1995, late afternoon meeting in the Oval Office — federal property. We had Mr. Clinton's belated admission that his guests were Mr. Riady, Mr. Huang, Bruce Lindsey and Little Rock's wheeler-dealer in Asia, Joseph Giroir. Then and there, Mr. Clinton approved Mr. Huang's switch from Commerce to the Democratic Finance Committee, where he could best cash in on the favors done for contributors.

Who had guilty knowledge of this influence peddling, and when? The cover-up crew at the White House, working closely with Democratic counsel on the Senate Whitewater committee, knew that the Lippo Bank connection might be troublesome in June, fully four months before accusations began in October.

According to a then secret deposition of Bruce Lindsey taken on June 8, the Senate was trying to find out if the Lippo Bank's payments to Web Hubbell just before he pled guilty to fraud were "hush money."

Needed: Independent counsel for (deep breath) investigation of possible fund solicitation on federal property (Section 607a of the Criminal Code); soliciting funds from foreign nationals (441e); contributions given in the name of another (441f); falsely pretending to be a federal employee (912); representing a client in matters in which accused had substantial participation while in government (207); tampering with a witness (1512); obstruction of proceedings (1505); bribery of selected or former public official (201); failure to register as a foreign agent (22 U.S.C. 618).

And, if done by phone or mail, connect the dots with the infamous Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (18 U.S.C. 1961).

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: In Madagascar

PARIS — The Figaro published a letter from its special correspondent in Madagascar describing the measures taken to restore order on that island. The letter states that the execution of Ratsiniamanga, uncle of the Queen, and of Raniandriamanpandry, the Minister of the Interior, who were convicted of secretly supporting the insurrection, produced a deep impression on the population and convinced them that the French intend to put down the rebellion and maintain order in the country.

1921: A Pipe of Peace

BISMARCK, North Dakota — Marshal Foch smoked the pipe of peace with Chief Red Tomahawk when he exchanged the white man's palace for the teepee of the red man. Red Tomahawk is the brave who killed Sitting Bull after the massacre of Custer's men by the rebel Sioux. In token of this supreme respect, the Indian chief christened him with a name borne only by big chiefs of the tribe, "Watakpech Wakiya," which means Charging Bull.

1946: Chiang Speech

NANKING — Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek told the Chinese National Assembly that he considers his political career is at an end. "I am sixty years old now," he declared emotionally as he presented China's new coalition draft constitution. "In the past twenty years since Sun Yat-sen's death I have been entrusted with the responsibilities of government. Now that the National Assembly has taken over I have no more political ambition." Chiang also said that the new constitution provided for a presidential system of government with extensive powers entrusted to the chief executive.

OPINION/LETTERS

Proustian Flashes Leave A Bad Taste in Europe

By Daniel Tarschys

STRASBOURG — For years, he had not thought much about his childhood. But then it came back to him in a flash, sparked by the taste and smell of a particular cookie and a particular flavor of tea ...

As Europe's presidents and prime ministers gather in Lisbon on Dec. 1 and 2 to discuss a security model for the 21st century, they have reason to reflect on this key event in Marcel Proust's "Remembrance of Things Past."

European history is full of horrors that we Europeans have consigned to collective oblivion. But how long will they stay buried?

Nations forget, but nations also remember. Far back, or not so far back, in our minds lurk recollections of trouble and trauma. It does not take much to revive them. A sudden event may unleash a stream of unpleasant memories.

Consider the war in Chechnya. Much has been written of the tragic consequences for the region itself and for Russian politics, of the killing and suffering. Less has been said of the war's impact on Central Europe.

That impact, I believe, has been profound. There are many reasons why the area's countries want to join NATO, but I suggest that nothing has acted as powerfully on Central European public opinion as the images from Chechnya.

To the credit of Russia's leaders between 1988 and late 1994, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the withdrawal from Eastern Europe and the early transformations of Russia itself were peaceful processes. Victims there were, but they were few given the historical scope and sweep of the transition.

The watershed was Chechnya. On the television screen in every living room, the Russian military was back in action, conjuring up nasty memories among Central and Eastern Europeans.

Other recent Proustian events have occurred between Greeks and Turks. At a distance, the display of force over a group of uninhabited islets in the Aegean Sea and the killings along the green line in Cyprus may seem merely unfortunate incidents, but in the region they had a powerful impact because of the associations they evoked.

The Greeks and Turks are not alone. The atrocities Europeans have committed against other Europeans are sufficient to fill libraries. In fact they do. If we were bent on settling scores, we could have another century of wars.

The alternative, practiced since 1945, is a policy of systematic reconciliation. This is not achieved by suppressing the past or just letting bygones be bygones. Nor is it achieved by citing mythologies about "the eternal friendship between the peoples."

What is needed is a much more ambitious enterprise: serious attempts to see things from the other's point of view, combined with a determination to face a common future. That is what European construction is all about.

What France and Germany have achieved is exemplary. With a firm resolve to end centuries of conflict, they have linked themselves through a network of human and economic contacts, through education and cultural exchanges.

Could this experience be repeated in other parts of the Continent? It could and it should. Nations that eye each other with age-old suspicion deserve particular attention.

European stability requires reasonably fireproof democracies. As long as attitudes toward minorities and neighboring countries remain highly inflammable, even small reminders of past injuries can spark dangerous reactions.

Efforts to strengthen democratic institutions and respect for human rights go a long way toward neutralizing such risks and are key priorities for the Council of Europe. But in conflict-ridden regions they need to be supplemented with targeted initiatives to build confidence and understanding. Joint projects in research, education and culture can be particularly efficient.

Compared to wars and their aftermaths, such regional preventive measures cost peanuts. The Stability Pact, concluded in Paris in 1995, gave a promising impetus in this direction.

This push should be continued. The Lisbon summit meeting can recover time lost in the pursuit of European security.

The writer, secretary-general of the Council of Europe, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hong Kong's Liberty

It would be morally bankrupt of Western businessmen to "sacrifice Hong Kong for the vast China market" *("Business Needs a Hong Kong With Free Speech Maintained," Opinion, Nov. 20, by George Hicks).*

Mr. Hicks argues that even just for the sake of making money, Hong Kong's current ways should be defended. Without the high degree of liberty we now enjoy, Hong Kong will not continue to play its role as the business hub of the region. Western businessmen should state clearly to Beijing that Hong Kong should be left alone after the handover next year. Otherwise everyone will lose.

Unfortunately, businessmen, be they Western or Eastern, are shortsighted almost by nature. The editorial "Hong Kong Rights" *(Nov. 22)* had it just right when it said: "Few in Hong Kong's business elite have defended the territory's rights."

It is purely wishful thinking that politics and economics can be totally separated, especially in a totalitarian country. Businessmen are naïve if they think they can prosper without political freedom. For one thing, the spread of corruption from mainland China is certain to be devastating to the business community.

But businessmen can afford to be optimistic. Unlike the vast majority of Hong Kong people, who have no choice but to stay here, many businessmen have an exit route — a foreign passport — and can pull out if things go terribly wrong after 1997.

Businessmen like to compare Hong Kong to the goose that laid the golden eggs and imply Beijing will not be so foolish to mess it up. I always find this analogy chilling: We all know what happens to the goose in that story.

KIN-MING LIU.
Hong Kong.

Guns and the World

Guns make killers more dangerous, from Scotland to Somalia. Thomas Hamilton could not have killed 16 children and their teacher in Dunblane, Scotland, last March without his guns. In the Third World, the easy availability of guns has seen disputes that once would have been settled with a fistfight spiral into massacres.

A young Somali boy's description of gunmen illustrates the tragedy that guns have caused in his country:

"If they did not have the gun, they would be nothing. That's why they must lose their guns. Without the guns anyone can defend himself against them. Of course, many of them have become used to violence, so they would probably go and get a knife. But they can only injure one person at a time with a knife. But with the gun, many innocent people are killed all the time."

In Britain, the government's pledge to ban most handguns acknowledges the link between the availability of guns and the number of firearms deaths. Yet the acceptance of this link sits uneasily alongside Britain's willingness to export weapons to some of the world's most unscrupulous regimes. In recent years, British-owned companies have sold guns to countries including Turkey, Indonesia and Nigeria. It is widely accepted that these states regularly commit serious violations of human rights.

It will be a tragic feature of Britain's current gun-control debate if guns are banned at home yet are exported freely abroad. Britain and other European countries already have agreed on a set of criteria to govern the arms trade. These should prevent governments from exporting guns to dictatorial regimes, countries with poor human rights records and regions of instability. The criteria, however, are nonbinding and open to widely different interpretation.

ANTONIA HINDS.
London.

The writer is media officer at Saferworld, an independent research group advocating practical steps to help prevent armed conflict.

A Satisfied American Gives Holiday Thanks

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON — I was in Italy last month. Along with some friends, my wife and I toured the Chianti region — splendid hill town after splendid hill town. We ate, we drank, we took in the views and then, later, zoomed down to Rome for a bella time. A friend who lives part of the time in Italy tells me you can live better there than any other place on Earth. I do not doubt him. Still, it is Thanksgiving weekend and I'd rather be here.

MEANWHILE

I know what my friend means. America is no longer unique in having a high standard of living. A person with some money can live better elsewhere. Italy, for one, dazzles the eye. It is a stylish country of stylish people who seem to feel a genuine obligation to dress in a manner that contributes to the overall aesthetic. As for the food, I have nothing original to say on the subject. Just let me eat.

For some people, the country of passion is France, or Switzerland or Britain or ... it doesn't matter. My point is there are many places where a person can live well. The America of my childhood, unique and special, is gone. The bar charts of my school texts — the ones showing U.S. production in electricity or cars or steel — once swelled my chest. There was the American bar, a virtual skyscraper, and next to it was a row of tenements — little countries with little to boast about.

But if you know some history, there are few places you can go where the ghosts of yesterday don't make unexpected appearances.

The prosperity of present-day Europe is layered over a vast killing field, places where in my lifetime one people has turned on another with a bestiality that is incomprehensible. To merely list what one group of Europeans did to another group of Europeans in just this century would easily take the rest of this column. Bosnia alone could fill the page — and the story continues.

America has no such history. That is a blanket statement, mostly true for most Americans, sorely off the mark for African-Americans and Native Americans. For the latter, we have had our own killing fields — not just battlefields where warriors fought, but places where women and children were massacred by men wearing the uniform of the U.S. Army.

For African-Americans, too, the American experience has hardly been one of unalloyed joy. They came here as slaves, in unspeakable conditions. For many blacks, slavery evolved into a kind of serfdom, but even for those who were more fortunate, there was always bigotry and discrimination. One picture of a particular lynching sticks in my mind. It shows a crowd of white men, mostly dressed in suits and ties, standing around smiling and laughing as a black man is murdered. The picture has an undeniable Holocaust quality to it.

It is both very American and very alien at the same time.

Yet when a Texaco executive was accused of saying "nigger," I asked my colleagues if they had ever heard the word used in a workplace setting. The answer, always, was no, never.

Certainly, that has been my experience, although, yes, I have heard it on the street, once directed at a little girl with whom I had gone for a walk. I know many African-Americans think this is the way whites talk when they are not around — but not anymore, at least not as far as I know.

So I think — I know — that things are getting better here. I think — I damn well know — that in my own field, where once I had few black colleagues, I now have many. I can drive through suburbs that once could only have been white, and now they are black. And not too long ago, Virginia had a black governor, Douglas Wilder. This is the state where every highway seems to be named for a Confederate general.

By nature and occupation, I am a cynic. But this country is mostly good and mostly going in the right direction. Yes, of course, we have a ways to go. Yes, of course, we are not yet perfect. But America has been good to me and my family — to my mother born in Poland, to my father raised in an orphanage, and so on this holiday I want to say thanks. Some people say you can live better elsewhere — but only, I think, if you know you can always come back home.

The Washington Post.

NO MATTER WHAT THE STORY, EUROPE TRUSTS CNN TO BE THERE.

Q & A

Weekdays, 18:30 CET
Riz Khan hosts this interactive show where viewers can communicate with high-profile guests via e-mail, fax or phone.

WORLD NEWS EUROPE

Weekdays, 22:00 CET
Designed to shed light on European and world events of interest to our European viewer.

INSIGHT

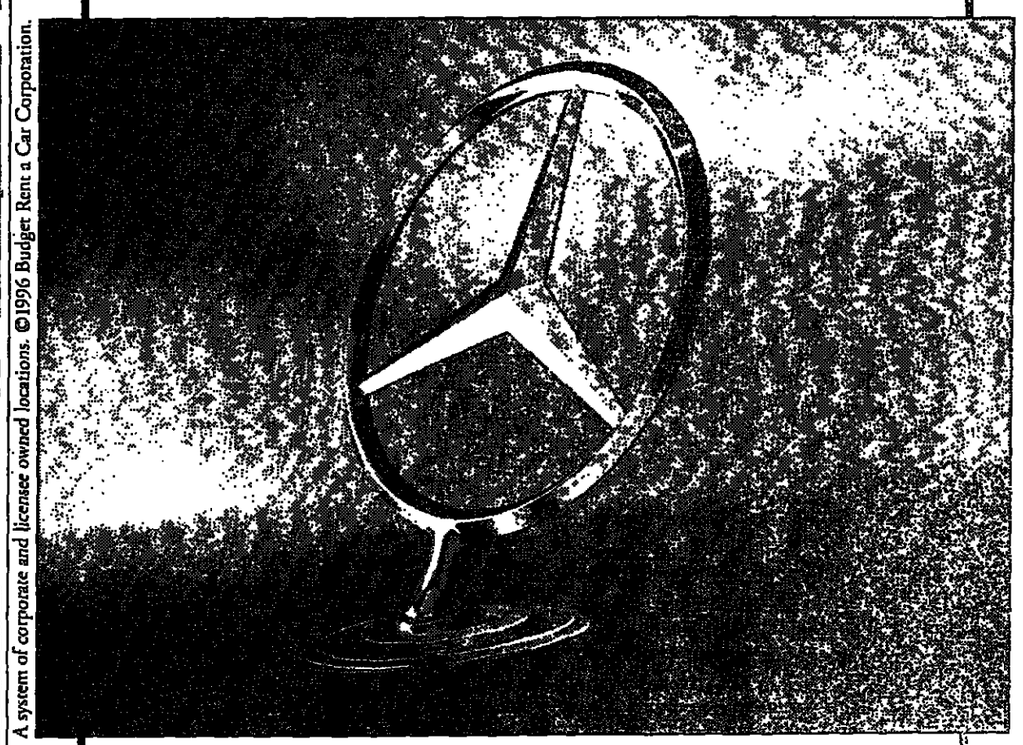
Everyday, 22:30 CET
In-depth coverage of the world's most complex and compelling issues. See a single issue explored for a full half hour every day.

LARRY KING

Weekdays, 15:00 & 21:00 CET
Join Larry for insightful interviews with world renowned guests.

CNN INTERNATIONAL
THE WORLD'S NEWS LEADER
Access CNN on the World Wide Web at cnn.com

Budget® For Business Hire.
Where Luxury Comes As Standard.



A system of corporate and licensee owned locations. ©1996 Budget Rent a Car Corporation.

Hire a Mercedes for the price of a standard* car.

Now you can experience the luxury of a Mercedes C-class for the same price as a standard car and enjoy dynamic handling, the highest level of comfort and state-of-the-art technology. And with 3,200 locations worldwide, including 825 airport locations, you're never far away from an office. For reservations and further information about this offer, contact your travel agent or call your local Budget Central Reservations number.

This offer is available in the following countries: United Kingdom – 0800 181 181, Greece – (30) 1 922 6666, Austria – (43) 7242 [illegible], Finland – (358) 0685 3322, Norway – 800 30 210, Germany – (49) 89 666 950, France – 05 10 00 01, Belgium – (32) 2 721 5097, Denmark – (45) 3311 1234, Ireland – (353) 903 24668, Netherlands – (31) 2356 71222, Luxembourg – (352) 44 1938, Sweden – 020 787 787.

Budget
All The Difference In The World.

*Price based on national tariff rate in participating countries, subject to availability. Valid until 14th December 1996. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotional discounts or special rates unless specifically relating to this promotion. Offer available from participating Budget locations in the countries listed above, subject to availability. Special rental terms and conditions apply and will vary from location to location. Includes CDW, VAT and unlimited kilometres but excludes other voluntary insurances and petrol. Promoter: Budget Rent a Car International Inc, 41 Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP1 1BJ, United Kingdom. MCHTT1596.

هكذا من الاصل

INTERNATIONAL

Danish Truckers Call Off Four-Day Blockade

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

COPENHAGEN — With their horns blaring, scores of huge trucks drove away from a key border crossing Thursday night as truckers ended a four-day blockade that paralyzed Denmark's exports and threatened to empty store shelves at home.

The decision to end the blockade came at a meeting of about 2,000 truckers at Padborg, the main land crossing into Germany, where the protest against a tax regulation had begun before spreading to other crossings and ferry ports.

The drivers were protesting a regulation that allows them to deduct only 150 kroner ($26) from their income taxes for each day they work outside the country. Danes working abroad in certain other occupations can deduct as much as 500 kroner. The government has proposed to raise the deduction to 250 kroner and promised to look further into the regulation.

A spokesman for the truckers, Ole Pruesse, said they would start blockading again if lawmakers did not live up to their promises.

"Let's drive — now!" drivers shouted, after protest leaders, a lawyer and sympathizers urged them to end the blockade before public opinion turned against them.

"It's better to stop now that we have gained sympathy in Parliament and in the population," one trucker told Denmark's DR-1 television channel.

About 3,000 trucks took part in the blockade, which brought exports to a standstill and prevented trucks carrying imports from entering the country.

The action stalled many of the trucks that use ferries to transport domestically produced goods between Denmark's many islands. Supermarket chains on Zealand, the island where Copenhagen is situated, said supplies of fresh meat, fruits, vegetables and milk were running short. The blockade was a serious blow to Danish exporters of meat and fish, and especially to the seasonal Christmas-tree business. *(AP, Reuters)*

PRODI: *Italy Faces Uphill Battle to Euro*

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Prodi said President Jacques Chirac of France "made clear to me in a telephone conversation this past weekend that he wants Italy in the single currency, and I am grateful to him for his support and also to Spain."

Mr. Prodi also made these other points during the interview:

- A new round of reforms to Italy's pension system would be "obligatory" in 1998. "I want to start immediately a wide and deep discussion with industry and trade unions of pension reform, just like in any other country in Europe."
- The multibillion-dollar privatization of the state telecommunications company STET "will go ahead next May, after we have merged STET with Telecom Italia."
- His government will decide early in 1997 on how to interpret a Supreme Court ruling that the media magnate Silvio Berlusconi must divest one of his three television networks. "We are obliged to obey our Supreme Court. Of course, all the details are still under discussion."
- There should be no amnesty for those caught up in the *Tangentopoli*, or "Kickback City" corruption scandal.

Mr. Prodi also rejected a call from the president of Fiat, Cesare Romiti, for Italy to delay its single currency ambitions by one or two years. Asked to comment on the view of Gianni Agnelli, the former Fiat president who said Wednesday that a delay in joining the single currency "would not be a tragedy," Mr. Prodi said that would depend on "one's concept of tragedy." He said: "I think it would be an enormous tragedy."

Mr. Prodi conceded there was no chance Italy would meet the Maastricht treaty's condition requiring total debt to equal no more than 60 percent of GDP by 1997. "But we will be trending downward," he said "and there are other countries also in a similar situation."

"When I came to government," said Mr. Prodi, 57, "there was no chance of attaining the Maastricht conditions. Now there is a high chance, let us say an increasing chance, and objective observers say there is a better than 50-50 chance of Italy's joining the first wave of countries launching the single currency." Although he said the government had no plans to introduce a supplementary budget in the spring to further squeeze into the Maastricht criteria, Mr. Prodi said that to avoid such a step Italy would need a growth rate of 2 percent in 1997.

Most private-sector economists and some ministers of the Prodi government say Italy will be lucky to achieve even 1.5 percent growth next year.

Commenting on the readmission this week of the Italian lira into Europe's currency grid at a rate of 990 lire per Deutsche mark, Mr. Prodi rejected criticism from some Italian industrialists who said that this level is not favorable to exports. "We have a balance of trade surplus here," he said, "but still high interest rates, and so the rate of 990 is fair."

Awad Awad/Agence France-Presse

FLYING CARPET — Prime Minister Abdel-Karim Kabarati's helicopter lifting the red strip Thursday as the Jordanian visited Jericho.

FRANCE: *Truckers Dig In Over Pay Issues*

Continued from Page 1

snippets of the impact: In Toulouse, in the south, only one gas station was open, while in Marseilles, 20 were open but for emergency needs only. The police were enforcing the restrictions.

In Tourcoing in the north, all major roads into Belgium were blocked. In Caen, the center of the Norman town was empty of customers, and one retailer estimated Christmas sales had fallen 30 percent. Factories and small businesses were also beginning to close in scattered locations. Hundreds of workers went on "technical unemployment," as it is called here, because their businesses could not operate without supplies.

The crisis even affected turkey farmers near Lyon, who said their fowl would start dying over the weekend if food and heating fuel could not be delivered.

In France, as in most places, it is against the law to block the roads. But this is a country with a long tradition of popular unrest in the streets, and so far the government has made no threat to get the parked trucks off the highways.

"There is a moment when the law stands aside against social reality," said Rene Valladon, secretary-general of the economy section of the Workers' Force, one of the major unions. "It's French culture."

Unlike the strikes last year, this work action involves private-sector workers. The government has acted as mediator and, in the issues that have been settled so far, has made nearly all the concessions.

The government agreed this week to cut the retirement age for truckers from 60 to 55, one of the youngest retirement limits in Europe's private sector. The state largely finances retirement pensions. The government also agreed to reduce some tax payments by trucking companies if the money saved went for other benefits demanded by the drivers.

Such concessions were painful for a country struggling, like the rest of Europe, to reduce its large budget deficit to meet the economic targets for a single European currency by the end of 1997. But they were not sufficient. The trucking companies and the unions could not agree on the final wage and hour demands, which do not involve the government, and marathon talks broke down early Thursday.

The government negotiator, Robert Cros, resigned, saying his mission had been largely accomplished. Transport Minister Bernard Pons tried to put a good face on the end of the negotiations by saying that the talks had succeeded and that he saw no reason why the highway barricades should not come down.

But he warned later that if a resolution was not reached rapidly, "I will propose that the government do it by decree."

Like many industries in Europe, the trucking industry is struggling with deregulation, new competition and overcapacity. As of 1998, trucking companies from any country in the European Union will be able to carry goods anywhere they find business, including between cities in countries not their own.

Striking drivers are trying to force all companies to adhere to a 1994 agreement limiting work hours, which only 30 percent follow. Drivers earn about $2,000 a month for 230 hours of work. But along with the shorter hours, they want the same pay. Depending how it is calculated, that amounts to an increase of 23 percent to 30 percent. The companies are offering about 2 percent.

Stephane Levesque of the industry group National Federation of Road Transport said that many of the strikers were permanent union employees, not actual drivers, and that many of the trucks in the long, still lines were just trapped.

Still, he said, "I think the authorities will have to intervene."

■ Swiss Ease Truck Size Rules

Switzerland agreed to a limited relaxation of its strict size limits on trucks Thursday to allow loads of such perishable goods as fruit and vegetables to get around France's strike-blocked roads, Reuters reported from Bern. But the Federal Office of Police Affairs, in charge of road rules, said it had rejected a request from international transporters for a general lifting of size limits that effectively bar most trans-European trucking.

Bomb Damages French Courthouse

Agence France-Presse

LIMOGES, France — A bomb seriously damaged the facade and entrance hall of a courthouse in Limoges, in central France, but caused no casualties, police said Thursday.

The bomb, which police said was made with 500 grams (1.1 pounds) of plastic explosive, was thought to have been planted outside the entrance. The courthouse's massive wooden door was blown to bits, and four vehicles parked nearby were wrecked.

Separately, a small bomb slightly damaged the Marseille office of a company that operates ferries between France and the Mediterranean island of Corsica, according to local firemen. They said that a passer-by was slightly injured and that nearby parked cars were damaged.

There was no immediate claim for either bombing, but a banned separatist group, the Corsican National Liberation Front, has claimed responsibility for recent bombings in Bordeaux, Nimes and Aix-en-Provence.

TAIWAN: *Clinton and Mandela Help Beijing Score Diplomatic Points Against Taipei*

Continued from Page 1

isolated in their support of Taipei over Beijing.

With the upcoming Clinton-Jiang reciprocal visits likely to lead to a cooling down of Washington's relations with Taipei, analysts said this week had amounted to a major setback for Taiwan and its attempt to break free of China's efforts to isolate the island in the international arena.

That mood is not likely to improve anytime soon. In December, as the first step in the improving Chinese relationship with the United States, the defense minister and deputy chairman of the powerful central military commission, Chi Haotian, is scheduled to make a long-delayed visit to the United States.

Washington's arms sales to Taipei are likely to feature prominently in Mr. Chi's talks with U.S. officials.

But some academic analysts dispute the long-held notion that improved ties between Washington and Beijing automatically mean that Taipei's interests are sacrificed. This time around, some said, Mr. Jiang may be more anxious than Mr. Clinton to have a state visit to Washington since he may be trying to shore up his own standing within the Chinese Communist Party by brandishing his credentials as a statesman.

In that case, the theory goes, Mr. Jiang would be unwilling to make any bold or intimidating gestures against Taiwan for fear of jeopardizing his Washington visit and Mr. Clinton's reciprocal trip to Beijing in 1998.

Building Better Language Skills

This new collection of more than 30 articles from the International Herald Tribune will help readers build their comprehension skills in English. The material draws on news and features from the pages of the newspaper offering a selection of articles on thought-provoking contemporary issues in Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States.

Developed by the editors of NTC Publishing Group, one of the leading American educational publishers, the background notes and related activities aid comprehension, and help readers to analyze content, style and tone, as well as to polish their own vocabulary and writing style. Photos, graphs and illustrations provide context for the readings.

The MORNING EDITION package, in a vinyl storage case, consists of:

1. The Manual (175 pages) with articles organized in thematic sections: News, Opinion, Business, Profiles, Arts/Entertainment, Science/Health, and Sports. Each article includes exercises to help readers better understand its many points, vocabulary and idioms, as well as aids to analyzing sentences and paragraphs. Each section includes a "Focus on the Newspaper" unit designed to familiarize readers with the characteristics of journalistic writing.
2. Three audio cassettes provide three hours of valuable listening practice and speech models, focused on the articles in the Manual.

MORNING EDITION is an excellent tool for improving your English – and is a perfect gift for colleagues, friends or family members who are studying English as a foreign language.

Order your copies today with the coupon below.

via the World's Daily Newspaper. Herald Tribune

Return your order to International Herald Tribune Offers, 37 Lambton Road, London SW20 0LW, England.
For faster service, fax order to: (44-181) 944 8243.

29-11-96

Please send me _____ copies of MORNING EDITION at UK£40 (US$60) each, including postage in Europe.
Additional postage outside Europe: North America, Africa, Middle East £2.60 (US$3.95) per copy;
rest of world £5.80 (US$8.75) per copy.
Please allow up to 3 weeks for delivery.

Name _____
Address _____
_____
City/Code/Country _____
Payment is by credit card only. Please charge to my credit card:
☐ Access ☐ Amex ☐ Diners ☐ Eurocard ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa
Card No. _____ Exp. date _____
Signature _____
Company EEC VAT ID No. _____

VW: *A Truce With GM?*

Continued from Page 1

This week's 5 percent drop in VW's stock price also shows that investors no longer ignore the prospect of multibillion-dollar damages against VW in the GM suit, said Falk Frey, industry analyst at Bank Julius Baer.

Analysts estimate that damages in the case could run to more than 3 billion Deutsche marks ($1.96 billion), enough to more than wipe out a full year's earnings at VW. GM said it was too early in its legal strategy to enumerate the potential damages, but the Detroit News cited a figure of $4 billion.

For GM and its German-based unit Adam Opel AG, VW's legal setbacks have opened a way to intensify the public-relations assault on its German rival.

GM has used each new ruling as an opportunity to repackage its charges from the Detroit suit, often emphasizing allegations of "conspiracy and racketeering," as it did Tuesday.

For VW, which calls GM's tactic a "smear campaign," the Lopez affair has swelled to a new crescendo at an unfavorable time.

"Far graver than the legal dispute and incalculable in its negative consequences is the damage to the reputation to the VW group that goes along with the years of pending hearings," an editorial in Handelsblatt said.

Few industries in the United States evoke such highly charged emotions as automobiles, particularly imported ones. VW's own executives concede.

The issue is back on the front burner at a time VW needs to defend its reputation ahead of a fresh advance into GM's home turf in the U.S. car market, the world's biggest, analysts said.

In a few months, VW wants to launch its restyled Passat in the United States. In two years, a modernized and re-engineered Volkswagen Beetle, aimed at U.S. buyers, will roll off production lines in Mexico. VW closed its only U.S.-based plant in 1988, a year when it sold 168,800 cars in North America.

By 1993, the year in which VW posted a pretax loss of 1.3 billion DM and Mr. Lopez jumped to VW, its U.S. sales had slumped to fewer than 50,000 vehicles.

The image of Mr. Piech, also named as a defendant in GM's Detroit suit, sitting as a defendant in a U.S. court "would be worth more for the U.S. auto concern than the most expensive advertising campaign of all times," Handelsblatt wrote in the editorial.

"The thing that concerns us more than anything is the implications for the CEO," said Thomas Holmes, an analyst at Schroeder Muenchmeyer Hengst & Co.

ACCESS: *The Big Clinton Donor Who Kept 'Popping Up' at the White House*

Continued from Page 1

Democratic National Committee officials, who recently have returned nearly $1.5 million in large, foreign-linked contributions because of apparent illegalities or improprieties, insisted that Mr. Chung's donations were both legal and proper.

But senior administration officials acknowledged that Mr. Chung received various invitations to the White House and often talked his way into the mansion by informing staff members that he was a big Democratic donor. These officials said there was nothing wrong with granting Mr. Chung himself frequent entrance, but they were uneasy that he may have used the White House visits and photos to promote his business affairs.

"The White House is concerned when anyone misportrays their relationship with the White House or when they use their access to the White House for their own private commercial purposes, which is what we believe may have happened here," Mr. McCurry said.

In the annals of unconventional donors to emerge from the controversy over large contributions to the Democratic committee, Mr. Chung stands out. Few donated so much after previously giving nothing at all, or so aggressively sought to bask in the limelight of the presidency and the trappings of White House power.

Mr. Chung has not been shy about exploiting his contacts with the Clintons to enhance the prospects for his business, a fax broadcast system, and the financial interests of his friends.

His sales pitch to potential clients includes a thick portfolio filled with color photographs of himself and a smiling President Bill Clinton together at the president's 48th birthday party and inside the Oval Office, according to interviews with people who have witnessed Mr. Chung in action. A copy of his brochure contains no fewer than 10 photos of Mr. Chung with Mrs. Clinton and a personal handwritten note from the first lady thanking him "for your support and friendship."

In his appearance, Mr. Chung hardly fits the profile of a top Democratic donor. The 41-year-old, one-time engineering student resides in a middle-class neighborhood, and his business ventures appear to have enjoyed only modest success after leaving a trail of closed companies, creditors and lawsuits in recent years.

Mr. Chung declined numerous requests for an interview but said in a written statement: "While I am honored and privileged to have met the president and various officials, neither I nor my company have received any preferential treatment from the White House or any government official — merely occasional words of encouragement."

Mr. Chung, according to his business manager, Irene Wu, realized during the 1992 presidential campaign that political and governmental offices were ideal customers for his fax service. He traveled to Arkansas, banged on the door of the governor's mansion and spoke to Mrs. Clinton.

A senior White House official who recently discussed Mr. Chung with Mrs. Clinton said the first lady "remembers coming in contact with him at some point in Little Rock and that he had an idea for a business that he was trying to promote and she remembers being encouraging."

Mrs. Clinton added that Mr. Chung "kept popping up," the official said.

Beer Drinkers Vs. Gene-Splitters

Reuters

BONN — German politicians who want to protect the purity of their beer have drafted legislation to prevent the use of genetically altered ingredients by brewers.

A bill from the opposition Social Democrats calls for genetically manipulated barley, hops and yeast to be banned from brews conforming to Germany's famous Purity Law for beers, the journal of the lower house of Parliament reported Thursday.

The politicians noted with concern that genetically altered barley and yeast were already available.

JAPAN: *Court Finds Bank Guilty of Sex Discrimination*

Continued from Page 1

pressure from bosses and co-workers to follow a more "normal" course.

Nonetheless, in recent years more women have postponed marriage, or even rejected it altogether, and stayed in the workplace. As they do, pressure is building from Japanese women who want the kind of opportunities available to their American and European counterparts. In 1990, a Japanese court for the first time ruled that unequal pay for women and men was illegal.

The ruling Wednesday is expected to raise the chances of at least 10 other lawsuits that have been filed against employers over systematic denial of management positions to women.

Supporters say the ruling could force more employers to re-evaluate how they treat female employees. But many believe that sexual attitudes among Japanese men, and acceptance of them among many Japanese women, will be extremely slow to change.

Mineko Banjaku, 63, one of the women who filed the lawsuit, said Thursday that she started at the bank when she was 18 years old and worked there for 42 years before she retired three years ago. During that time, she said she put herself through college at night and desperately wanted to advance alongside her male colleagues.

"Some of the men who started my year ended up on the board of directors," she said. "Shouldn't I have had that chance?"

The nearly $900,000 award for the 12 women, aged 48 to 63, was for back pay. All except Miss Banjaku, who has since retired, are to be promoted immediately, the court ruled.

Takehiko Sakai, a bank official, said the credit union had already appealed the verdict and was optimistic that it would be overturned. His bank, he said, has one pay standard for both men and women and "promotion is given on an exam system" that is fair to both sexes.

The Tokyo District Court rejected the company's argument that there were almost no female managers because they had not passed an examination.

ALGERIA: *Turnout Is High as Algerians Brave Violence to Go to the Polls*

Continued from Page 1

station. "Here people need jobs, they need homes, they need a decent wage. Without them, they are driven toward extremism."

It was the polity of districts like Bourouba, combined with rampant disillusionment at the gross economic mismanagement of Algeria under decades of single-party rule by the National Liberation Front, that provided the roots of support for the Islamic Salvation Front in the early 1990s.

The new constitution attempts to close this chapter by doing two things: banning any party "founded on a religious basis," while at the same time giving Islam a greater role in the functioning of the state.

The first measure is supposed to preclude the possibility that the Islamic Salvation Front, or anything like it, could ever emerge legally again into political prominence. The second — evident in clauses that establish Islam as "the religion of the state," call for the creation of a higher Islamic council, and bar state institutions from engaging "in practices contrary to Islamic morals" — appears designed to dampen the political leverage of Islam for any opposition party while comforting Islamic moderates.

Mahfoud Nehnah, the leader of the Hamas Party, a moderate Islamic force in Algeria, encouraged his followers to vote in the referendum and intimated that he was not opposed to the new constitution.

Western diplomatic sources believe that Mr. Nehnah, who received 23 percent of the vote in the elections won by Mr. Zeroual last year, could eventually reach an accommodation with the authorities designed to turn his party — perhaps under a modified name — into something close to Islam's official political channel in Algeria.

What seems clear is that occasional attempts since 1992 to reach out to the Islamic Salvation Front and find some compromise are now at an end. There have long been elements within the military-dominated coterie that runs Algeria that favored such talks, but hard-liners appear to have won this internal battle.

"The repression of the opposition in the run-up to the vote, the massive military presence in the street, the climate of fear — all this suggests that those who want to eradicate the Islamic Front are feeling newly confident," said a Western diplomat. "The problem is that the war is not won. The Islamic opposition groups do not have the power to overthrow the government, but they are there."

The Armed Islamic Group, an extremist splinter group of the Islamic Front, threatened to kill anyone who voted in the referendum. But state authorities said the turnout among Algeria's 16 million eligible voters was high.

The constitution appears to create a veneer of democracy by allowing the formation of political parties, but severely curtails the power of their representatives in Parliament.

A second chamber, the Council of the Nation, is to be created. One-third of its members will be picked directly by the president, and the remainder by secret ballots in municipal, communal and regional assemblies. Because any measure will have to be approved by three-quarters of the council to become law, the president will have an effective veto over the legislature.

In Fiji, Funky Lodgings and Spectacular Coral

By Charles Corn

SUVA, Fiji — As we settled into our hotel near Nandi International Airport on the main Fijian island of Viti Levu, the television was ablaze with scenes of a curious assemblage of VIPs. On that April day McDonald's had opened its first restaurant in this nation of 320 islands scattered some 1,100 miles north of New Zealand, and the event was celebrated with a festive private party worthy of a visiting prime minister. My companion and I were at the start of a two-week vacation of island hopping. Having heard about the differences in coral formations, caves and currents, I planned to dive at four of our six destinations.

The hour's flight the next morning across the island to Suva took us over a spine of avocado-green wooded hills marked by abrupt rises of ancient lava cliffs and divided by a complex of brown rivers stretching in all directions to the sparkling seas.

With a population of 175,000, Suva is one of the most cosmpolitan cities in Oceania. Situated on a hilly peninsula, the lively, multiracial port still has a colonial feel, with some impressive old buildings, a residue from the days of British rule.

Much of the islands' history can be gleaned at the small Fiji Museum. Especially impressive are such maritime displays as canoes, outriggers and the rudder from the HMS Bounty, along with a vast collection of fierce-looking Fijian war clubs.

After a visit to the museum and a lunch of grilled lobster, we took the 12-minute flight to Levuka, the former capital of Fiji on the offshore island of Ovalau. I was curious to stay at the $10-a-night Royal Hotel, the oldest in Fiji, dating from 1852, Melville's day. The Royal, which has been owned by Dorothy Ashley for nearly 60 years, is a spectral monument from the days when mariners found their way through the reef passages in Levuka harbor, it is said, by the trail of empty gin bottles floating out. By day the Royal's exterior appeared so pounded by sun and storm that it seemed to flatten and cower into a nondescript two-story sentinel of wood and stone near the waterfront. Inside, however, it meandered into a dog-eared palatial place of odd-sized rooms, which were renovated once, in 1890.

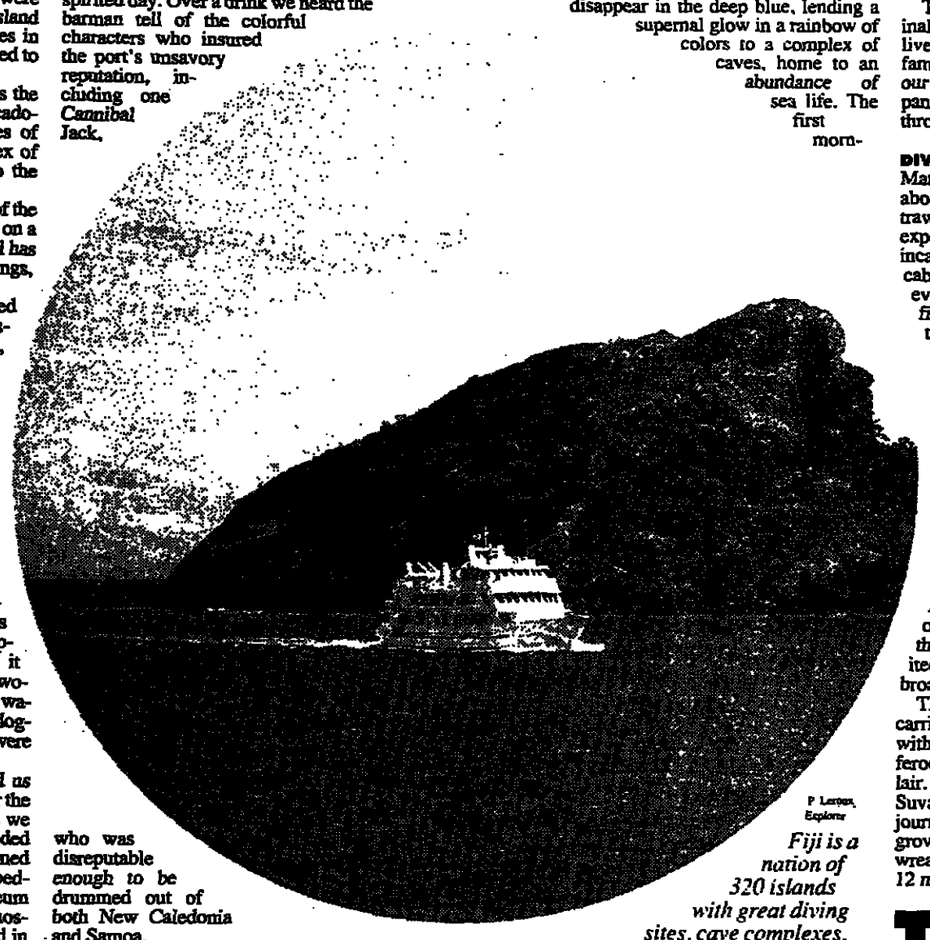
A handful of guests, mostly elderly, eyed us from their seats of worn rattan furniture under the overhead fans of the vast Victorian lobby as we registered. The place's rundown charm extended to the walls of the billiard room, which were lined with pictures of old cricket teams. In our bedchamber, up a flight of creaky stairs, linoleum covered the ancient hardwood floor, while a mosquito net covered the bed. The insects buzzed in the sullen air over the muffled sounds of a rising tide swelling the adjacent Levuka Creek and battering the sea wall beneath our window.

Rip-Roaring Port

Levuka was once a rip-roaring port and the most important metropolis of the South Pacific. Lining Beach Street along the curve of the bay were churches and merchants' houses, as well as saloons and bordellos to serve the visiting sailors. Between the Chinese and Indian restaurants dotting Beech Street today, visitors can see the Church of the Sacred Heart, with its stone clock tower dating from 1858, and the old Morris-Hedstrom store, erected in 1878 and now a museum.

The still thriving Fiji Times was founded in Levuka in 1869, a time when violence and murder were commonplace. Merchants trading in copra, the dried coconut meat whose oil is used for soaps and cosmetics, prospered (Kipling wrote of "the palm grove's droned lament / Before Levuka's trade"). They built houses on the steep hillside that is Levuka's lush backdrop. But the precipitous mountains and cliffs were an obstacle to expansion, and in 1882 the capital was moved to Suva. Levuka is now a haven for backpackers and budget travelers.

Near the hotel we found another relic from the past, the Ovalau Club, a colonial meeting house with airy rooms and worn hardwood floors. On the bleached wooden walls was a haphazard arrangement of framed memorabilia of a more spirited day. Over a drink we heard the barman tell of the colorful characters who insured the port's unsavory reputation, including one *Cannibal* Jack, who was disreputable enough to be drummed out of both New Caledonia and Samoa.



P Lemon, Explorer

Fiji is a nation of 320 islands with great diving sites, cave complexes, cliffs and even a McDonald's.

Our next destination was the volcanic islands of Taveuni, Qamea and Matagi, clustered together to the northeast beyond the Koro Sea. To reach them we returned to the Suva airport, then flew, by 17-seat Twin Otter, low across a stretch of turquoise ocean known as Bligh Water, punctuated by the emerald shallows of small islands and atolls under a scattering of high cloud.

At Taveuni, a 10-mile-long volcanic-spined island, our driver followed the single dirt road that circles the island, passing sugar cane, taro and pineapple fields. Taveuni is known as the garden island, since its 3,000-foot mountains invite from the trade winds vast amounts of rainfall that sustain lush vegetation. Our hotel, one of several on a grassy bluff overlooking a magnificent seascape, was a collection of six octagonal *bures* and a main lodge. The bungalows were laid out with privacy, the sun's passage, and the prevailing breezes in mind, and each was cooled by ceiling fans.

After a lunch of watercress soup and mango, we drove to the end of the island to hike and climb to view the Mbouma Falls, a spectacular cascade that tumbles down the mountainside in three tiers. As we explored the island, we learned that Taveuni was a haven for expatriates. Our hotel was owned by a New Zealand couple, and not far offshore lay the handsome island of Laucala owned by the Forbes family, where the late millionaire publisher's ashes were scattered.

Among scuba divers, Fiji is known as the soft coral capital of the world. The soft, so-called white coral plunges from a depth of 40 feet to disappear in the deep blue, lending a supernal glow in a rainbow of colors to a complex of caves, home to an abundance of sea life. The first morning's dive at Taveuni was as spectacular as any I remembered. We were dropped in the lee of a line of breakers on a reef before we filed through two successive cave openings in the submerged wall to 100 feet, and then allowed the current to carry us back beneath the repositioned diving boat, which we reached by ascending through a third cave.

The remoter, smaller islands of Qamea and Matagi are reachable only by launch. Qamea, the closer, is six miles long with 25 miles of coastline; a multihued green rain forest carpets the hills and valleys that play host to a variety of animal and bird life. The island's only hotel, the Qamea Beach Club, is nestled in a grove of coconut palms behind a fringe of beach, where we were met at surf's edge by its manager, Randy Young, a wry New Zealander. "The native villages are reachable only by boat," Randy told us. "The only vehicle on Qamea is a wheelbarrow."

Our spacious beachfront room — one of 11 beachfront bures on 43 acres and comfortably stilted off the ground — was guarded by a wide porch and furnished with a queen-size bed and large pieces made from local hardwood.

We spent two relaxing days on this nearly deserted island, swimming laps in the cool freshwater pool, reading and scuba diving. We then continued by launch eastward for Matagi, a privately owned, forest-covered atoll with a submerged crater-lagoon called Horseshoe Bay on the opposite side of the island from the small resort.

The owners, the Douglas family, who are originally from Scotland and in the copra trade, have lived in Fiji for five generations. As Flora, the family matriarch, led us down the line of bures to our stilted bure raised on a hill, giving us a panoramic view of the glass-smooth harbor through a gauze of palm.

DIVING EXPEDITIONS On our first afternoon on Matagi we were invited by the Douglas family aboard the Matagi Princess, a converted shrimp trawler from Australia that specializes in diving expeditions to neighboring islands. In its present incarnation it had a spacious galley and bar, cozy cabins and a state-of-the-art diving locker. That evening over a buffet dinner while birdsong filled the night air, guests talked about diving the waters of the world, from the Red Sea to Truk Lagoon.

After two days on Matagi we were again airborne, this time heading for Savusavu on the large island of Vanua Levu, where we had reserved a bure at the Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort. When the younger Cousteau opened a resort, he had a very public falling out with his famous octogenarian father, Jacques, inventor of the aqualung and high priest of ocean ecology. One does not have to take sides in a family feud to enjoy the spectacular beauty and activities of the resort, which is distinctly American in spirit and size and in its emphasis on ecology. Less intimate and personal than the family-run affairs we had previously visited, Cousteau's resort has spacious bures and broad, open common areas adjacent to a pool.

The current on one dive at Cousteau's resort carried us through a coral cave, its floor dotted with giant clams, to a coral head ruled by a ferocious moray eel retreating menacingly into its lair. After two days on Savusavu we returned to Suva, where we boarded an outboard punt for the journey down the Rewa River through a mangrove swamp and out to sea to Toberua Island, a wreath shape floating in the haze like a lei some 12 miles from the river's mouth.

TOBERUA, small enough to explore in a few minutes, is a resort owned by a New Zealander, Michael Dennis, with one of the finest kitchens in the islands, featuring fresh seafood served on a terrace free of mosquitoes by virtue of Toberua's small size and isolation. This resort, built in the late '60s, is the site of an afternoon ritual that engages all ages, something I'd never before encountered: when the tide recedes to expose a moribund, mud-covered reef, guests assemble for a bizarre round of golf around the island, with a series of "greens" marked by fluttering flags rising from the muck.

Our island hopping came to an end with our four days on Toberua. Robert Louis Stevenson described the South Pacific as "a no man's land of the ages, a stir-about of epochs and races, barbarians and civilization, virtues and crimes," but for us the variety of fruits in this Eden were as rich as fine old wine.

Charles Corn, who has just completed a book about the spice trade, wrote this for The New York Times.

The Marquesas Islands, From Gauguin to Melville

By Donna Rosenthal

WHILE sipping cafe au lait in a cafe in Tahiti in French Polynesia, my husband and I noticed two young men with elaborate tattoos sitting at the next table. We struck up a conversation and learned they were woodcarvers from the Marquesas Islands, 740 miles northeast of Tahiti. A cultural revival is taking place there, they said proudly, a renaissance of tattooing, drumming, dance — traditions once banned by French missionaries in the 19th century.

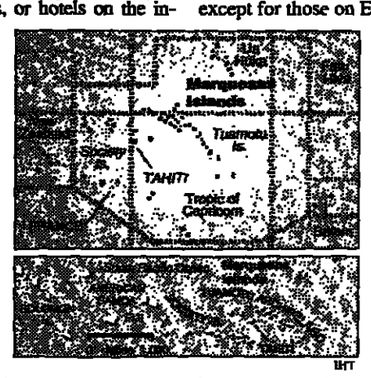
I was intrigued. What better gift for my sea-loving husband on our 10th wedding anniversary than a journey to islands that had lured Herman Melville, Paul Gauguin, Robert Louis Stevenson and Thor Heyerdahl? So last July, we flew to Tahiti, then boarded the 343-foot freighter Aranui II. The voyage lasted 16 days; we stopped at 15 villages on the six inhabited islands of the Marquesas archipelago.

Passengers of all ages were sitting around a small plunge pool, but the nerve center of the ship was the lively bar on the top deck run by Yoyo, the barefoot bartender, whose favorite expression is "Aita e pe'a pe'a," which means "no problem." The first night set the tone for the voyage. When I heard music coming from the kitchen I peeked in and saw a rotund chef dancing around the stove and clicking his spoons like castanets. In the dining room, we joined the 50 other passengers — a lively mix of nationalities and ages — at a family-style dinner with open seating. Over fine French and Polynesian food and copious French wine, my well-traveled tablemates swapped adventure travel tales.

SARONGS AND HIBISCUS On the Aranui II, getting dressed meant a T-shirt and pastel *pareu* (sarong) or shorts, sandals and a white *tiare* (hibiscus blossom) behind the ear (left if you're taken, right if you're available). That night on deck, some of the crew sporting intricate Marquesan tattoos strummed ballads on handmade ukuleles and beat wild rhythms on a metal bucket. Soon the crew — all Polynesians, with the exception of our two guides — and passengers were gyrating to the hypnotic beat of the *tamure*, which resembles the Hawaiian hula, but is more forceful and suggestive.

As we neared the Marquesas, I borrowed Herman Melville's "Typee" from the bookshelf in the lounge. Twenty-three-year-old Melville wrote this autobiographical first novel after jumping his whaling ship in Nuku Hiva and being captured by hospitable cannibals, who held him for about a month, in 1842. Looking up from "Typee," I spotted Nuku Hiva's jagged volcanic spires looming out of the sea. The Aranui II slipped into Taiohae Bay, a spectacular giant volcanic amphitheater dominated by emerald peaks streaked with waterfalls. Melville put it succinctly: "Nothing can exceed the imposing scenery of this bay."

There are few roads, cars, or hotels on the inhabited islands. Except for a few "yachties," we were the only visitors to Taiohae, a relaxed one-road town (pop. 1,200) that is the administrative capital of the Marquesas. The ship's passengers traveled by jeeps on winding roads along towering cliffs, retracing the escape route Melville and a buddy took after going AWOL, driving through a curtain of green into the mysterious Taipivai Valley. (Typee was Melville's misspelling of "Taipi.")



IHT

We hiked through the undergrowth with our multilingual guides, who pointed out enigmatic petroglyphs of fish, sacred turtles, and human figures carved on huge boulders. We reached a *me'ae*, an ancient stone temple where religious rituals and ceremonial cannibalism took place.

As we neared the magnificent bay of Atuona on the island of Hiva Oa, I leafed through Gauguin's "Oviri: Writing of a Savage." This island, where jade peaks pierce the clouds, was Gauguin's last stop in his search for an unspoiled place. I wandered through the village of Atuona, past the post office and the shoe-video store to a two-story blue colonial wood building. Lucien's Magasin is where Hiva Oa's most famous resident used to stock up on liquor. Now it also sells baguettes, Hershey bars and T-shirts with Gauguin prints.

Down the road, a modest museum features reproductions of a few Gauguin paintings. Next to it is a replica of Gauguin's infamous two-story bamboo "Maison du Jouir" (House of Extreme Pleasure). The hard-living artist spent the last two years of his life in this hedonistic sanctuary, where he painted more than 20 pictures and died alone at 55, of syphilis. On the hike up to his grave, we found the air perfumed by plumeria, bougainvillea, jasmine and tiare. Beneath a frangipani tree is a simple stone tombstone with the words: "Paul Gauguin 1903." Nearby is the overgrown grave of another artist this untamed island seduced: the Belgian singer-composer Jacques Brel, who died here in 1978.

On the opposite side of Hiva Oa, in the village of Puamau, are the ancient *tikis*, figures carved from sacred red volcanic stone, the tallest in Polynesia, except for those on Easter Island.

The Marquesas are an archaeologist's paradise, according to Sidsel Millerstrom, a University of California at Berkeley archaeologist I met at Chez Yvonne's restaurant. Hidden in the rampant vegetation, she says, is a wealth of undiscovered sacred sites and other reminders of a once magnificent civilization whose people were nearly wiped out by Western diseases and weapons introduced to the islands. By 1920, the population had shrunk to 1,500, from the approximately 100,000 living on the islands when the first white men arrived in 1768. Today, there are fewer than 7,000 Marquesans on the islands.

Fatu Hiva, population 497, remains a bastion of Marquesan culture.

Omoa, a sleepy village cradled between craggy volcanic peaks, has about 10 woodcarvers, some of the most accomplished in the Marquesas.

A few invited us into their home-studios. As I watched them shape exquisite rosewood bowls and carve ironwood war clubs and tables, I understood why Captain James Cook called the Marquesans the Pacific's "most artistically refined people."

Fatu Hiva is the only island in the Marquesas where *tapa*, traditional bark cloth, is still made. As they have for centuries, women dry the thin strips into tapa cloth and then decorate it with the same ancient designs men have on their tattoos. The women are also famous for their *monoi*, coconut oil scented with tiare blossoms and sandalwood shavings, prized throughout French Polynesia.

As we neared Hanavave, we cooled off with a plunge in the secluded river pool where the Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl used to bathe with his wife in 1936. In his book "Fatu Hiva," he described the island as a "speck which the world has overlooked, a tiny free port of refuge from the iron grip of civilization." Sixty years later, it still is.

On the crew's day off, we anchored off Tahuata, the remains of a huge sunken volcano. The chef prepared food, and passengers and crew picnicked on a deserted beach and snorkeled among clouds of yellow butterflies and majestic angelfish. When we arrived at the nearby village of Hapatoni, villagers greeted us with *kaoha*, (the origin of the Hawaiian word "aloha") and crowned us with flowers.

I thought that this warm greeting — one of relaxed South Seas charm, rather than a commercial staging — could not be equaled, but it was, when our freighter docked the next day in Ua Huka, the driest island in the Marquesas, where wild horses outnumber the 476 residents. As we disembarked, people eager for visitors and cargo crowded on the dock and sang a welcome. While nonequestrian passengers explored the island in pick-up trucks, about 20 other passengers and I jumped onto wooden saddles, which felt rock hard during our three-hour ride. Led by four young local men, we rode through a mountain landscape that resembles California's Big Sur coast, with equally stunning views.

WHEN we tethered our horses in the village of Vaipaee to visit a small museum, I was stunned by its displays. The curator, Josef Tehau, in his late 30s, had carved almost everything in it; his spears, canoe paddles and bowls are replicas of Marquesan carvings Western visitors carted away long ago. "Our past is mostly in museums," Tehau, said sadly. "We can't get it back, so I copied the objects from photos."

A lavender dawn greeted us on our last day in the Marquesas. On the horizon were the three volcanic needles of the island of Ua Pou that Robert Louis Stevenson described in his book "In The South Seas."

Standing on the ship's top deck, I watched fishermen set off in outrigger canoes, descendants of perhaps the greatest navigators of all time, the first settlers of the Hawaiian islands, New Zealand and Easter Islands and, in the words of Captain Cook, "the most splendid islanders in the South Seas."

Donna Rosenthal, author of "Passport Israel," has written extensively about Asia and the Pacific. She wrote this for The New York Times.

KIDS

Families That Stay Together

How to Find The Right Hotel

By Susan Keselenko Coll

WASHINGTON — Bring some kids along and the number of things that can go wrong at that otherwise charming little hotel suddenly becomes immeasurable: "Adjoining" rooms may turn out to be on opposite ends of the building, not to mention on different floors; baby-sitting services may be mere electronic listening devices hooked up to the front desk; that fabulous day-care program described in the glossy brochure might be canceled because the requisite number of children failed to appear (did you read the fine print?).

Traveling with children will always require some compromise, particularly as standards for things as simple as the sturdiness of a crib vary from country to country. Still, there are certain measures one can take to ensure that a hotel room will at least meet minimum standards for a comfortable and safe stay with children.

Dan Hallinan, who operates the "Travel With Children" agency in Berkeley, California, advises travelers to communicate special needs to the hotel directly, rather than simply making arrangements through an "800" number.

He describes booking international accommodations for families as tricky — he has found only a handful of hotels in Paris, for example, that will allow more than three people in a room. Still, he argues, "Most cultures are family friendly." Problems are often encountered simply because of language barriers. "There's a hotel I love in Venice," he explained, "but they would never provide a family room." Once a client of his wrote to the hotel in Italian and, indeed, had no difficulty whatsoever in securing a family room.

When language is an issue, Hallinan suggests that faxes are particularly useful. That way, he explains, the hotel has time to figure out what you're saying.

Theresa Detchemendy, president of the Rascals in Paradise travel agency in San Francisco, advises parents to ask very specific questions of international hotels, such as whether there are potentially dangerous balconies, whether windows are screened, and even whether such basic amenities as high chairs are available.

She also advises parents to beware of sleek advertising. "It's fashionable to market that [hotels] are family friendly, but what does that mean?" she asks. "When you scratch off the surface verbiage there's a wide range."

But the best bet is to be prepared. Pamela Lanier, mother of four children and the author of 14 travel books including "Family Travel, The Complete Guide," says that, when her children were young, she always took a portable crib, as well as bedding, regardless of whether they were offered by the hotel.

Lanier also suggests bringing along a "day bag" with food and a small electric kettle to make soup or hot chocolate. Her advice is particularly useful in countries where dinner may be served late, and where even the local grilled cheese sandwich may be too exotic for picky eaters.

When Noise Is an Issue

Lanier also suggests that parents think twice about staying in small, swank hotels, particularly when noisy children are an issue. On the other hand, she says, when Third World travel is involved, this "is not the place to go for the bottom of the barrel" in terms of price.

Despite the odd horror story, there are an increasing number of hotels offering special accommodations for children. For example, Holiday Inn has recently introduced "Kidsuites" at its Paris-Republique hotel. The rooms provide a separate play and sleep area for kids, stocked with amusements.

Even the more traditionally business-oriented ITT Sheraton has added a few family perks: The Sheraton Centre Toronto has introduced a supervised play center, and the Sheraton Algarve in Portugal advertises a Children's Village program with supervised activities.

While direct contact with a hotel is advisable, working with a family-oriented travel agency can also have benefits. Agencies often have more clout in terms of booking rooms, and can also steer parents toward alternative and often more family-friendly accommodations such as villas, apartments or houses, some of which may come with hotel-style services.

Of course, the difference between one family's idyllic holiday and another's all-out disaster is often a matter of attitude. "A lot depends on what the parent's comfort level is," says Detchemendy.

Susan Keselenko Coll is a Washington-based journalist.

LEISURE

Fear of Flying? One Passenger's Back-to-School Solution

By Debbie Seaman

SYDNEY — Our flight was halfway between New York and Washington when we felt the plane drop out of the sky. That is, the aircraft lost altitude so suddenly and dramatically that the passengers gave a collective gasp. Gripped with gut-wrenching terror, my knuckles white and my face contorted in a mask of horror, I was convinced not only that I was about to die violently, but also that I would have several more minutes to be conscious of this inevitability, as our plane plummeted to the earth in a ball of fire.

Of course, the plane leveled off. The pilot, in the same cozy drawl he had used to give us the weather report, came on the PA system to inform us that he had had to avoid a small aircraft.

The incident, 12 years ago, was the moment when flying began to inspire dread instead of excitement. With each consecutive flight — and I've always been an inveterate traveler — the fear fed upon itself until, a couple of years later, it blossomed into phobia.

The takeoffs were the worst. As the jet lumbered heavily skyward, I was sure it would simply lose momentum and crash. I felt emotionally flayed. I had control neither over the feelings I was host to — terror, discomfort, vulnerability and downright dislike and distaste — nor over their snowballing.

The discomfort was exacerbated by the slightest change in engine sound. "What's that?" I would gasp to my husband, my fingers digging into his arm, as I heard a high, whining sound in the bowels of the jet. "Why is the plane doing that?" I would demand of a bemused steward, who explained that those minor fits and starts I felt during takeoff were caused by the wind.

Once the aircraft had reached its cruising altitude, my emotions seemed manageable as long as we didn't hit any major turbulence. Landings were almost tolerable because I figured that we were close enough to the ground that the plane ought to be able to get down safely.

After a while I couldn't even turn to my husband any more. He adores flying, especially the takeoff. Once, when we were en route to the States from Sydney and I whimpered that I couldn't abide this terror any longer, he snapped. "Well, do something about it!"

Eight-Week Course

That was when I contacted Fearless Fliers Inc., run by members of the Australian Women Pilots Association and sponsored by Qantas at that airline's base at Sydney Airport. They offered a fear-of-flying clinic, three-hour sessions every Tuesday night for eight weeks for $351, including a round-trip Sydney-to-Melbourne flight at the end.

As I am an American married to an Australian and have to endure long hauls if I want to see my family in New York, I resolved that I wanted to stop huddling in my seat, quivering during takeoffs, thinking, "I can never again in my life go through this terror." I wanted to get well. What I hadn't expected was to have fun doing it. But, taken under the wings of Glenda Philpott and other female pilots from the Sydney area, we were given an enthusiastic eight-week immersion into the world of aviation that was usually reassuring and often exciting.

As 18 of us sat in a training room, we were told that one in five people suffers from fear of flying. We soon took the first steps in overcoming those fears. Bryan Burke, a doctor of psychology at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, took us through relaxation exercises, a combination of deep, slow breathing and the tensing and releasing of different muscle groups. Later we were told to picture ourselves in a room where we felt the safest. "Don't watch the horror movies," Burke admonished.

More important to me, however, was the education and exposure we received to every aspect of aviation. We ascended the Sydney Airport Air Traffic Control Center and watched, mesmerized, as the jets took off and landed on a clear night. We went on a "jet crawl," an exploration inside, around and under a Boeing 747 docked in a Qantas hangar, a session designed for desensitization. Another night we toured the flight-crew training center, where crew members are taught to evacuate a plane virtually blindfolded in 90 seconds. We were taught that Qantas pilots are required to visit the airline's flight simulator regularly to practice dealing with malfunctions such as stalls, when the plane loses altitude because its position does not allow the air to flow properly over the wings, as well as aborted takeoffs and landings.

One night I confessed my constant concerns that the plane would simply drop out of the sky. John Dennis, a Qantas captain, smiled and asked me what I thought would happen if all engines on a 747 lost power. The stricken look on my face was my reply, but he reassured me that this is more or less what happens every time a plane begins its descent: the thrust of the engine is reduced almost to idling, and the plane virtually glides to its destination. A video on jet maintenance, as well as the tour of the jet maintenance center, showed us that these giant machines are gone over with the finest of fine tooth combs.

WE covered weather and turbulence. We learned to eradicate the term air pocket from our vocabularies and think of the air as a fluid in motion, like the sea. We discovered that the only harm that could come to us from turbulence was an injury caused by an unfastened seat belt.

No single aspect of the course, however, did as much to make me feel better about flying as a whirl in one of Qantas's $15 million flight simulators. Boxy machines on stilts trailing air hoses that help induce motion, they look on the outside like creatures out of "War of the Worlds" and are so realistic on the inside, from the whine of the engines to the view of the runway projected on the windshield, that I panicked after I had impetuously volunteered to "fly" a 747 simulator.

Fear turned to awe as, under the tutelage of a Qantas flight engineer, Paul Blanch, in the pilot's seat, I got it into the air from a simulated Hong Kong Airport and kept it there, marveling at the sensitivity of the cockpit instruments as I banked to the left.

I am still not sure why this ride seemed so reassuring, aside from the fact that it demonstrated the ease of handling of even such a huge machine. Perhaps it was because those of us who obsessed about not being in control felt more secure about being in good hands.

Although I had been optimistic about the graduation flight, I was host to a case of pit-of-the-stomach nerves as I arrived at the airport. A final relaxation session helped. Still, my palms were sweaty when, having been picked to sit in on the takeoff, my old bête noire, I proceeded to the flight deck of the 747-400.

Dennis, our erstwhile professor, was a familiar face in the pilot's seat. Listening on my headphones as the plane prepared to start out from the gate, I was struck by the sense of solemn ritual and regimentation that characterized all his communications with the tower as well as with other crew members. Actually, it was comforting to me, perched 32 feet above the runway in the nose of this behemoth, that nobody lapsed into lighthearted banter.

As the voice on the radio cleared us for takeoff, the runway we had swung onto looked as if it stretched into infinity, and the engines roared to life. So did my adrenalin.

TRIGGERS AND FEEDBACK Looking back on the one-hour flight, I can see that the same old triggers set me off: the movements of the climb, the engine sounds, the bumps and grinds of turbulence. The difference was, though, that the fear lasted only until my mind fed back the information I had gleaned from the course. When I compared my relatively mild anxiety to the terror that used to grip me in the air, I knew I was getting better.

With another overseas marathon looming, I have just bought tickets for the Fearless Flier reunion dinner. I am told that about 200 people are expected to attend, including some graduates who have gone on to get pilots' licenses. I'll be happy, thank you very much, being a placid passenger.

Debbie Seaman wrote this for The New York Times.

ARTS GUIDE

BELGIUM

BRUSSELS
La Monnaie, tel: (2) 229-12-11. "Die Zauberflote." Directed by Ursel and Karl-Ernst Herrmann, conducted by David Robertson, with Kenneth Cox/Carsten Stabell, Cyndia Sieden/Elena Vink, and Ernst Theo Richter. Dec. 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19.

BRITAIN

LONDON
British Museum, tel: (171) 323-8525, open daily. Continuing/ To Jan. 5: "Mysteries of Ancient China."
Royal Opera, Covent Garden, tel: (171) 304-4000. Puccini's "Tosca." Directed by Jeremy Sutcliffe, conducted by Edward Downes/Placido Domingo (Dec. 9), with Galina Gorchakova, Keith Olsen and James Morris. Nov. 30, Dec. 3, 9 and 11.

FINLAND

HELSINKI
The Museum of Contemporary Art, tel: (0) 17-33-61, closed Mondays. To Jan. 26: "Irving Penn: Photographs." Portraits, fashion photographs from the 1950s and still lifes by the American photographer (born 1917).

FRANCE

PARIS
American Cathedral, tel: 01-53-23-84-00. Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.: "An American Christmas." Under Joel Cohen, the Boston Camerata performs American carols, spirituals and Shaker songs on historical instruments from the 17th to the 19th centuries. The audience is encouraged to sing along.
Grand Palais, tel: 01-44-13-17-17, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/To Jan. 20: "Picasso et le Portrait."

GERMANY

COLOGNE
Josef Haubrich-Kunsthalle, tel: (221) 221-23-35, closed Mondays. To Jan. 12: "Star Trek: The Exhibition." A behind-the-scenes look at the famous television series with a display of original artifacts, models and costumes. The exhibition will travel to Edinburgh, Manchester and London.

An 1888 view of Niagara Falls, on show in Washington.

ITALY

VENICE
Palazzo Grassi, tel: (41) 522-1375. Continuing/ To Dec. 8: "Magna Grecia: I Greci in Occidente."

pieces excavated from burial mounds in southern Russia, including weapons, jewelry, ornaments, vessels and ceramics dating back to the Scythian and Sarmatian peoples who roamed the Black Sea area between the 5th century B.C. and the 4th century A.D.

SPAIN

MADRID
Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, tel: (91) 420-3944, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Surrealist Games: 100 Cadavres Exquis." About 100 works known as "cadavres exquis," i.e., collective drawings — the drawing was started by an author, hidden in the fold of the paper, and continued by the next author — by Surrealist artists, such as Picasso, Max Ernst, Miro, Dali, Aragon and Breton.

SWITZERLAND

GENEVA
Grand Theatre, tel: (22) 418-31-30. Verdi's "Rigoletto." Directed by Andrei Serban, conducted by Marco Guidarini, with Alain Fondary/Stephan Piatnychko, Marcus Haddock/Tito Beltran and Victoria Loukianetz/Darina Takova. Dec. 14, 15, 17, 18 and 20.

UNITED STATES

DETROIT
Detroit Institute of Arts, tel: (313) 833-7900, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To Jan. 26: "Karsh Portraits: The Searching Eye." 100 photographs by Yousuf Karsh (born 1908) who has traveled the world photographing statesmen, artists, literary and scientific figures, such as Churchill, Mother Teresa, Brigitte Bardot and Bill Clinton.

LOS ANGELES
Museum of Contemporary Art, tel: (213) 626-6222, closed Mondays. To Feb. 2: "Paradise Cage: Kiki Smith and Coop Himmelblau." A collaborative installation between New York-based Kiki Smith and Viennese architect Wolf Prix of the Coop Himmelblau studio, consisting of sculptural works by Smith positioned within a cage-like structure designed by Prix.

WASHINGTON
National Museum of American Art, tel: (202) 357-2700, open daily. To April 20: "American Photographs: The First Century." Traces the early history of photography with more than 160 works, ranging from daguerreotypes and tintypes to silver and platinum prints. Among the artists represented are Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham and Eadweard Muybridge.

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM
Van Gogh Museum, tel: (20) 570-5200, open daily. To March 2: "Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema." The Dutch artist (1836-1912) worked in London from 1870 on; his depictions of a classical past, on a background of white marble, blue seas and opulent textiles appealed to the bourgeoisie of the time, but fell into oblivion after his death, with his paintings sometimes described as 'decoration for chocolate boxes.' The exhibition will travel to Liverpool.

SCOTLAND

GLASGOW
Burrell Collection, tel: (41) 649-7151, open daily. To March 31: "Russian Gold: Treasures of the Warnor Tombs." More than 200

TO OUR READERS IN HOLLAND
It's never been easier to subscribe and save.
For more information just call: 020 673 0757.
Herald Tribune
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

MOVIE GUIDE

JINGLE ALL THE WAY

Directed by Brian Levant. U.S.

At one point in "Jingle All the Way," a crass and crummy Christmas tie-in movie starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sinbad, somebody says, "This is the end of civilization as we know it." Would that it were. Civilization as depicted in this movie is mere trivialization. Parents are goofy. Kids are self-absorbed. Commercialism has triumphed. Christmas is no longer a joyous time of giving; it's an onerous opportunity for hard-working fathers to assuage their guilt by buying their children the same overpriced toy that every other American child wants. Howard Langston (Schwarzenegger) is an ultra-ambitious businessman who never quite makes it to his son's Kodak moments. After missing a karate awards ceremony, Howard offers an alibi to his wife, Liz (Rita Wilson), and apologies to his son, Jamie (played nicely by Jake Lloyd). Jamie essentially agrees to forgive his father if Howard will get him a Turbo Man action figure for Christmas. My two sons, 11 and 7, laughed at the slapstick stuff. But my 11-year-old pointed out that almost everyone in the movie, except for Liz, is angry or greedy or conniving or just plain nasty. I wouldn't go to this movie looking for Christmas cheer. In fact, if you have an ounce of glad tidings when you enter the theater, ask an usher to hold it for you until you leave.

(Linton Weeks, WP)

Twentieth Century Fox

Sinbad and Schwarzenegger in "Jingle All the Way."

SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY

Directed by Shunji Iwai. Japan.

After the success of "Undo" and "Love Letter," the director Shunji Iwai, encouraged to think big, has come up with a 140-minute epic about new affluence (Tokyo as Yentown) and the influx of other Asians, drawn by the money magnet. There is a Chinese whore played by a famous Japanese rocker, a Shanghai entrepreneur, played by a famous Japanese heartthrob, a Beijing gangster played by a famous Japanese character actor. They get this dead *yakuza*, in whose stomach they find a tape that not only contains Frank Sinatra's "My Way," but also holds a code on how to make counterfeit yen. It sounds like fun — particularly Ol' Blue Eyes gurgling away in the depths — but nothing is made of anything. Iwai began his career creating music videos, his values are TV values, and he refers to himself not as a film director but as a "visual media artist." He sure is, what with his super-fast cutting, his heavy atmosphere, compulsory *noir* and ubiquitous vocal numbers. Though we have some fun with the languages (Chinese, Japanese and English simultaneously), the whole thing eventually turns into a big, long, heavy MTV, and it outlasted me. *(Donald Richie, IHT)*

101 DALMATIANS

Directed by Stephen Herek. U.S.

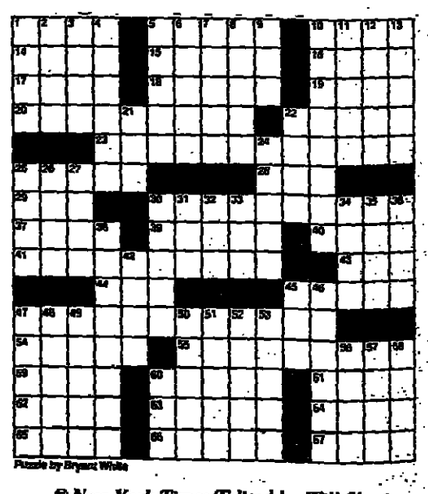
In Hollywood, imitation is the most profitable form of flattery. That is the only plausible explanation for "101 Dalmatians," Walt Disney's disappointing live-action remake of its own 1961 classic. The original animated feature is, deservedly, a treasured memory for millions who experienced it in youth and who often introduced the videotape to their children. But the latest film, produced and written by John Hughes, will never attain such status. The new "101 Dalmatians," which stars Glenn Close, is energetic, all right. It has a passel of adorable pooches — although Dalmatians, it turns out, aren't quite as lovable in real life as Disney movies make them out to be. Most notably, it has a bravura performance by Close. As the sinister Cruella De Vil, she crackles with cartoonish villainy. But there isn't a trace of magic to be found in the production. When Anita (Joely Richardson), who owns a female Dalmatian, marries Roger (Jeff Daniels), a fellow Dalmatian owner, their union becomes multiple. Their dogs — Pongo and Perdy — fall in love, too. But when the Dalmatians have their first litter, trouble comes knocking at the door. Anita's boss, Cruella, a fashion-fur empress, has decided that Dalmatian pelts are in. When Roger and Anita refuse her lucrative offer for all 15 puppies, the infuriated Cruella dispatches a couple of hoodlums (Hugh Laurie and Mark Williams) to steal the dogs. In both movies, this is the point where the dogs take over the story. Thanks to a network of farm animals and dogs, Pongo and Perdy discover their offspring and make a rescue attempt. But in the latest movie, the animals (with a few minor exceptions) are neither animated nor animatronic. Given the tremendous success of "Babe," in which animatronic sheep and pigs were used brilliantly, it's bewildering that Disney didn't take advantage of such technology. Instead, we're obliged to watch a menagerie of real critters that, sweet as they are, don't have the entertainment value of their artificially created counterparts. The long-winded second half, featuring the Dalmatians' escape from the two goony gangsters (who seem to have stumbled off the set of "Home Alone"), promises to be a trying time for impatient young viewers. Even the extensive Hughes-style slapstick feels unnecessarily tedious and cruel.

(Desson Howe, WP)

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Site of this puzzle's thematic features
5 Nixon's running mate in 1960
10 Nibble
14 Crowning
15 Bee-fitting description?
16 Bone: Prefix
17 Red Skelton persona
18 Stood for
19 Épouse's mate
20 Perform, as one's duties
22 Colorado, e.g.
23 Is rather like Rather
25 Shaking
28 U.S.D.A. power agcy.
29 Pizarro's prize
30 Juicy fruit
37 Pig's place
39 Els with tees
40 Yeats's land
41 Courtroom figures
43 "Hurrah!"
44 Comics word spelled between asterisks
45 Lucifer and Pansy's boy
47 Noted band conductor
54 "Henry & June" character
55 They give a ship increased speed
59 Orch. section
60 Cat's eyes, at times
61 Torment
62 Rectangular pier
63 "Le —— du printemps"
64 Arthur of "Hoop Dreams"
65 Present time
66 Glacial formation
67 When the French go en vacances

DOWN
1 King of Saudi Arabia
2 Yours, in Tours
3 Pens' mates
4 Long stretches
5 Prayer wheel users
6 Beethoven wrote just one
7 Identify
8 Thief, in Yiddish
9 Fangorn Forest dweller
10 Put forward
11 River to the Missouri
12 Float accessory
13 They get what's coming to them
21 It's pitched on a field
22 Old buffalo hunter
24 Heraldic bands
25 Thimble Theater star
26 Queued up
27 Hel raiser?
30 Tree with triangular nuts
31 —— artium (logic): Lat.
32 Clinic workers, for short
33 Kind of dye
34 1982 Boxleitner film
35 Nap
36 Breadwinner
38 Peculiar to a population
42 Lifts
45 Fathead
46 Sheepish reply?
47 Black lacquer
48 Bridge bid, informally
49 Creator of Truthful James
50 Mallorca y Menorca
51 Purse item
52 Eccentric
53 Andreth adversary
56 Cassio's rival
57 Place
58 "Don't delete this"
60 180° from a Hitchcock classic?



Puzzle by Bryant White

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of Nov. 28

C	O	M	A		E	M	M	A		R	O	Y	K	O
A	F	A	R		B	E	A	T		E	V	A	N	S
I	F	Y	O	U	W	A	N	T		P	E	R	I	L
R	E	B	U	S		T	O	L	E	A	R	N	T	O
O	D	E	S	S	A		R	E	A	R	S			
			E	R	L	E		E	S	T	E	E	M	S
A	S	K	S		A	L	T		T	E	E	D	O	F
A	W	E		D	R	I	V	E	W	E		E	R	R
R	A	N	S	O	M		S	N	O		I	N	K	S
E	G	O	T	R	I	P		C	O	N	N			
			A	I	S	L	E		D	A	N	I	S	H
W	O	N	T	S	T	A	N	D		M	A	R	C	O
A	L	O	U	D		I	N	Y	O	U	R	W	A	Y
F	L	O	R	A		D	U	A	D		D	I	L	L
T	A	N	E	Y		S	I	M	E		S	N	E	E

HOLIDAYS AND TRAVEL

RESIDENCE HOTELS

PARIS
LES SUITES SAINT-HONORE
★★★★
13, rue D'Agueseau
Just off the Faubourg Saint-Honoré and The Elysée Palace
A LUXURY APARTMENT HOTEL RESIDENCE
Very exclusive, located in one of the most prestigious neighbourhoods: Faubourg Saint-Honoré and Champs Elysées.
Thirteen personalized large apartments up to 1200 sq. feet completely restored in 1992 with fully equipped kitchens, living-dining rooms, as well as one or two bedrooms, one or two marble bathrooms and some with studies.
Ideal for both family holidays and business trips, a perfect "pied-à-terre".
All hotel services. Daily maid service. Air conditionning. Underground parking. Complete security.
For more information or reservations, please fax directly to:
+33 (0) 1 42 66 35 70 *or call* +33 (0) 1 44 51 16 35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To the Shareholders of T.C.I.
in **VADUZ** with the right of holidays at the **VIKING-HOTEL** in **ALGARVE**
Are you a shareholder of Touristic Club International in Liechtenstein?
We are Victriclube, an association founded for the defense of your rights.
Please contact: Ms. Martins
Rua D. Carlos de Mascarenhas 17 - 3º
1070 Lisboa - Portugal
FAX: (00351) 1 385 25 28

France

SKI HOLIDAYS
(Special heading for Ski Rentals)
will be appearing again
on Friday, December 6th.
For more details please contact:
Imelda Mauve, Classified Sales Dept.
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE
TEL: PARIS (01) 41 43 92 89
FAX: PARIS (01) 41 43 93 70
E-mail: classified@int.com
Or your local IHT office/representative

DISCOUNT TRAVEL

LE COMPTOIR BLEU
FREE DELIVERY OF YOUR TICKETS
ALL TRIPS LEAVING FROM PARIS
REGULAR FLIGHTS RT :
New York/Montreal 2070 F
Reunion 3180 F
Los Angeles/San Francisco 3590 F
tél. (0) 1-46-56-40-40
EGYPTIAN CRUISE 2830 F
MADERE 2780 F
S' PETERSBOURG 3640 F
SOUTH AFRICA 7590 F
KENYA 3890 F
S' DOMINGUE 5670 F
BANGKOK - PHUKET 6590 F
36.15 BLEU
DES INFOS EN DIRECT

Hotels

Lebanon

HOTEL AL BUSTAN. East of Beirut. 5 star deluxe. Exceptional location, security, comfort, fine cuisine, conventions, business services, satellite TV, 18 min transfer from airport free. UTELL. Fax: (1-212) 4781391 - (33-1) 47200007

U.S.A.

BREATHTAKING VIEW OF NEW YORK. 20 fl. glass wall: Central Park & City. Luxuriously furnished: piano, fax, cable. For business, musician or honeymoon couple. 1 Block to Carnegie Hall, 2 to Lexington, 5 to London Center, Museums, Theaters. Weekly Monthly, 3 day weekends (minimum) or long term. Tel-Fax: 212-262-1561 USA

Holiday Rentals

Caribbean

ST. BARTHELEMY, F.W.I., OVER 200 PRIVATE VACATION VILLAS - beachfront to hillside with pools. Our agents have inspected all villas personally. For reservations on St. Barts, St. Martin, Anguilla, Barbados, Mustique, the Virgin Islands. Call: WIMCO/ISBARTH - U.S. (401)849-6012/Fax 847-6290, from FRANCE 05 90 16 26 - ENGLAND 0 800-89-8318

French Riviera

CANNES, superb house, sleeps 7. Walking distance beach/Croisette. Garden, pool, mastcook. Tel: +33 (0)493395892.

International Herald Tribune ads work

TWA
TRANS WORLD AIRLINES
We're up to something good.

LEISURE

The Lure Of Irish Cooking

A Culinary Tour of Cork

By Maureen B. Fant

CORK, Ireland — Even as I berated my Irish-born grandmother for the absence of spices and strong statements in her cooking, I began to suspect that she was operating on a higher plane than the practitioners of the more piquant cuisines I loved. But she held in contempt dishes designed to conceal inferior quality; for her the cook's job was merely to guide the best ingredients to the table in as near their natural state as possible. The secret of this approach lies, of course, in being able to recognize — and obtain — the perfect foods. On a recent trip to County Cork (reputedly one of the most interesting food areas in Ireland), I learned that this is what the so-called Irish cooking revolution is all about.

Underpopulated, agricultural Ireland today possesses a heritage of genuine foods industrialized out of existence elsewhere in Europe. Taking our instructions from John and Sally McKenna's superb book "The Bridgestone Irish Food Guide," my companion, Franco, and I visited four very different country houses and a chic city restaurant in our four-day trip.

BALLYMALOE HOUSE Ballymaloe is the domain of Myrtle Allen, the gifted grande dame of the new wave of Irish cookery, aided by several of her children, children-in-law (such as the chef, Rory O'Connell) and grandchildren. The house is a hotel of 30 rooms as well as a restaurant seating about 80, hidden outside the hamlet of Shanagarry, 20 miles east of Cork City. On a busy Saturday evening, all five dining rooms were full. We arrived with no preconceptions about what a sophisticated restaurant on an Irish farm might serve. Well, it was soul food — my grandmother's cooking plus that Continental note I'd always longed for. We ordered conservatively, choosing the most traditional-sounding dishes. The menu grows naturally each day from the available ingredients, most of which are from within a few miles of Ballymaloe.

As in all the country house restaurants we visited, there is a prix fixe menu, for $52.50 (all prices calculated at $1.75 to the Irish punt.) We began with a cucumber mold (bits of cucumber suspended in a yogurt and cream dressing) with flavorful tomatoes and a tomato cream dressing. This was followed by a fish course — I had a tasty baked cod with a hint of mustard in the cheese sauce, Franco the rather bland (or delicate, depending on your point of view) white fish mousse topped with an oyster. The excellent beef served at Ballymaloe comes from just down the road in Cloyne. Franco had it as his main course, served with horseradish mayonnaise and tasty but dignified French-fried onions.

But the star of our meal was my tender and lean loin of bacon, which tasted like a cross between roast pork and baked ham, glazed with brown sugar and pineapple and served with an Irish Mist sauce and red cabbage. In true family style, seconds were offered in case "himself" (or herself) wasn't getting enough to eat. In place of seconds, at the waiter's suggestion we had a slice of the succulent roast goose.

ASSOLAS COUNTRY HOUSE It may look like a postcard, but for all its elegance, Assolas, a big 17th-century house practically camouflaged by greenery about an hour's drive north of Cork City is a home, and that is how guests are made to feel by their host, Joe Bourke (his wife, Hazel, is the chef).

Menus are studied over aperitifs in the drawing room, then dinner is served in the red Queen Anne dining room that seats 25, where everyone speaks softly and service is discreet.

Matt Kavanagh for The New York Times

Myrtle Allen making bread at the Ballymaloe House.

For starters I had superb Irish oak-smoked salmon with potato pancake and horseradish mayonnaise. My companion's juicy mussels in brioche dressed with a chive cream had more of a French accent. An excellent green salad, fresh from the garden, followed, but its herb dressing was overpowering. Mrs. Bourke's style is modern and light but also conservative, a showcase for the fine raw materials, with an occasional flourish such as the marinated pear that accompanied my roast duck. The bird was sliced thick and well done, in a rosemary-flavored gravy: refined but simple, it tasted like duck, with new sensations in every bite. My companion's brill filet with lots of mushrooms and a sauce with just a hint of red wine, was nice but lacked the thrill of discovery that came with the duck.

LONGUEVILLE HOUSE This large Georgian house, dating back to 1720, is a sophisticated international hotel, but only up to a point. Dinner is served in two formal dining rooms. One, the nonsmoking Presidents' Restaurant, bright and Georgian, with a very high ceiling and magnificent marble fireplace, is hung with portraits of the Republic's presidents; the adjacent Library, where smoking is permitted, is darker and more sober.

The cuisine adds some exotic flavorings to superb local ingredients. The owner and chef, William O'Callaghan, was a pupil of Raymond Blanc, of Manoir aux Quat' Saisons outside Oxford, England.

We began with a piquant avocado mousse with a creamy leek salad and sesame biscuits and an exquisite Asian fantasy in the form of a crabmeat and coconut patty served with stir-fried vegetables flavored with ginger and coriander. These were followed by a delicious thick parsnip soup with chives and a simply dressed perfect salad.

Variations on lamb baked in a potato and herb crust have been turning up on the better Continental menus quite a bit lately, but none that I've tasted have achieved the perfection of Franco's thick juicy loin slices of homebred lamb with tarragon sauce. In contrast, my filets of black sole in a saffron and caper sauce were overcooked, though the Oriental-style raviolo stuffed with a mushroom and salmon mousse was ethereal.

The desserts too are sophisticated and excellent. We had a voluptuous pink loganberry mousse and a pyramid of thin sheets of chocolate containing a generous amount of dreamy mint ice cream.

LITTERCOLLUM HOUSE This is a funny old brick house built in 1861 just outside the village of Timoleague 30 miles southwest of Cork City, near the coast.

The rambling structure was the home of the owners, who now live in the converted stable, and most of the building serves as a hotel for up to 40 guests. A front room, with a stained glass window (from a time when the house was a convent) and splendid marble fireplace, contains a very good restaurant seating about 40. The co-owners, Con McLoughlin, and his wife, Karen Austin, share the cooking.

The prix fixe menu at Sunday lunch ($19.25) offered four or five choices in each course, all based on local, often homegrown ingredients, many embellished with an unsubtle Mediterranean accent, more Provencal than Italian.

We began with a tasty tarragon-flavored cream of courgette soup, containing a good deal more zucchini than cream, and an elegantly presented terrine of pork and pigeon with a homemade apple-tomato-ginger chutney and an excellent salad from the garden. This was followed by lovely old-fashioned roast lamb, flavored with rosemary and sliced thick, and a superb herb-roasted chicken in a tarragon cream.

ISAACS RESTAURANT Cork City does not contain a great many restaurants (and the reputed best, Clifford's, has closed, at least for the moment), but Isaacs is one that is much talked about. The decor is modern, in one big attractive room in a renovated warehouse. The menu is modern international eclectic, but what it lacks in focus it makes up for in goodness. Even the salads were comforting on a cold, rainy day when I had lunch there.

Two succulent starters were the delicious chicken livers sautéed with sliced mushrooms, served over green salad, and chunks of sautéed chicken breast served over salad with croutons and cubes of blue cheese. A satisfying creamy seafood chowder was enriched with bacon. A stew of beautiful chunks of lamb and flageolets beneath a Parmesan crust was a superb, albeit imported, antidote to the local climate, as were traditional salmon cakes bound with lots of mashed potatoes and served with chive mayonnaise.

Maureen B. Fant, who lives in Rome, wrote this for The New York Times.

How to Have a Capital Christmas

By Cynthia Hacinli

WASHINGTON — The U.S. capital turns luminous during the holidays. The majestic architecture and classical lines of the landscape, much of it the vision of Pierre Charles L'Enfant, are a fitting backdrop for fetes and merrymaking. Even politics are cast aside for the moment as lawmakers and lobbyists revel in the less Grinchy pleasures of the season.

Lighting the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse on Dec. 5 at 5:30 P.M. is the traditional prelude, done with pomp, fanfare and live entertainment. President Bill Clinton will flick the switch that illuminates the 40-foot (12-meter) tree. Lines for limited bleacher seating have been known to form as early as 2 P.M. Otherwise, it's standing room only on the Mall for this free event. The tree usually stays up until Jan. 1, and choruses and bands perform nightly from 6 to 9 P.M. through Christmas. Information: (202) 619-7183.

The White House is closed to tours until Tuesday so that staff members and volunteers can deck its halls. Tours resume on Wednesday and will continue to Dec. 31, when decorations are taken down. There are no tours Dec. 25 and regular tours resume Jan. 2. For information on daytime and candlelight tours (Dec. 26, 27 and 28), call (202) 456-7041.

Although tourists often don't venture beyond the three M's — the Mall, the monuments, the museums — Washington's neighborhoods merit a walk-through. Georgetown, with its Federal and Victorian homes and boutiques, gets the most hype. But others bear exploration: Dupont Circle, a few blocks northwest of the White House, a turn-of-the-century enclave of homes, galleries and restaurants; and, a bit farther north, Adams Morgan, with its nightlife.

The area along the 1300 to 1600 blocks of U Street is lined with clubs and coffeehouses, and art spaces and tapas bars have settled in the New Downtown (Seventh Street between E and I).

Holiday Music

Half the appeal of "A Child's Christmas in Wales" is its setting: the round Elizabethan-style theater at the Folger Shakespeare Library at 201 East Capitol St. S.E. Performances combining art, words, music, storytelling and sing-along will be held until Dec. 22. Tickets are $26 to $32, $16 to $28 for children.

The Folger Library's well-regarded chamber group, Folger Consort, will play Renaissance brass, string and organ works Dec. 20 to 22 at St. Peter's Church, 313 Second St. S.E., (202) 544-7077. Tickets $26.

Carols and other holiday music are on the Oratorio Society program Dec. 21, 22 and 23. Tickets are $10 to $34, half price for seniors and students. Performances of Handel's "Messiah" with the Washington Bach Consort Chorus and National Symphony are Dec. 19 to 22; tickets $11 to $47. Both concerts will take place at the Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. N.W., (202) 467-4600.

At the turreted Heurich Manse, home to the Washington Historical Society, 1307 New Hampshire Ave. N.W., (202) 785-2068, Christmas is celebrated with the German traditions of the beer magnate Christian Heurich, who built the place in 1894. Period rooms will sport turn-of-the-century ornaments and greenery, and food and recipes used to make the holiday feast. Victorian toys will be on display Dec. 5 to Feb. 1, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Admission: $3, $2.50 seniors and children. Candlelight tours (call to check availability) are held from 4 to 8 P.M. daily Dec. 5 to 30, except Dec. 24 and 25. Candlelight tours $5; seniors and children $2.50.

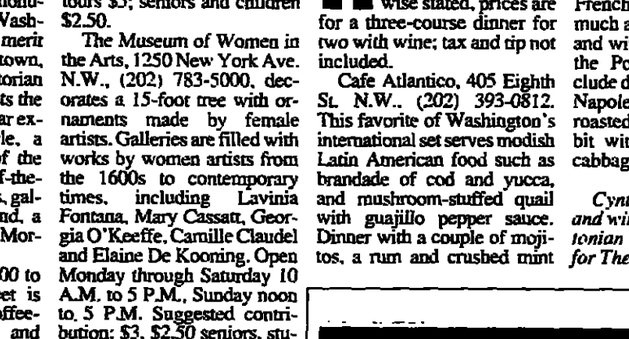
The Museum of Women in the Arts, 1250 New York Ave. N.W., (202) 783-5000, decorates a 15-foot tree with ornaments made by female artists. Galleries are filled with works by women artists from the 1600s to contemporary times, including Lavinia Fontana, Mary Cassatt, Georgia O'Keeffe, Camille Claudel and Elaine De Kooning. Open Monday through Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., Sunday noon to 5 P.M. Suggested contribution: $3, $2.50 seniors, students and children.

One way to avoid museum burnout is to focus on a small gallery or a single exhibit at a large museum. The Phillips Collection, 1600 21st St., N.W., (202) 387-2151, in an 1897 brownstone and more modern annex, became the first museum of modern art when Marjorie and Duncan Phillips opened it to the public in 1921, and has work by many major artists of the 19th and 20th centuries. "Impressionists on the Seine: A Celebration of Renoir's 'Luncheon of the Boating Party'" is on view through Feb. 9. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. (to 8:30 P.M. Thursday), and Sunday noon to 7 P.M. Admission: $6.50 to $10, seniors and students $3.25.

Another place for a tranquil escape is the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, 1050 Independence Ave. S.W., (202) 357-2700, a spare jewel box of a space. Part of the Smithsonian complex on the Mall, the Sackler specializes in Asian and Middle Eastern art. "Preserving Ancient Statues from Jordan" is on display through April 6. Open 10 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Admission free.

At the National Gallery East, Fourth and Constitution N.W., (202) 737-4215, "Encounters With Modern Art: Works From the Rothschild Family Collections" includes such well-known artists as Mondrian, Picasso and Brancusi, and such surprises as works by the unsung Sonia Delaunay, wife of the French painter Robert Delaunay.

A way to get outdoors is to rent a pair of skates and cut some figures at the National Gallery of Art Skating Rink, on the Mall at Constitution Avenue and Seventh St. N.W.; (202) 371-5340.



The New York Times

Here are some tips for dining. Unless otherwise stated, prices are for a three-course dinner for two with wine; tax and tip not included.

Cafe Atlantico, 405 Eighth St. N.W., (202) 393-0812. This favorite of Washington's international set serves modish Latin American food such as brandade of cod and yucca, and mushroom-stuffed quail with guajillo pepper sauce. Dinner with a couple of mojitos, a rum and crushed mint cocktail, or wine is about $70.

Asian street food is the inspiration at Raku, 1900 Q St. N.W., (202) 265-7258. The hip, Asian cartoons on the big screen and tall wooden bar stools give this crowded small restaurant a frenetic feel. Mix-and-match Pan Asian fare revolves around skewers, noodles, soups and Asian salads. Dinner with beer, sake or wine by the glass: about $35.

Georgia Brown's, 950 15th St. N.W., (202) 393-4499, is a good place to try updated versions of Carolina shrimp with sausage and grits, pecan crusted catfish, hoppin' John (a black-eyed pea and rice dish) and Frogmore stew, the South's answer to bouillabaisse with vegetables, seafood and rice. Vegetarian offerings are interesting too. About $70.

Lespinasse, a sister of the outstanding restaurant in New York, opened last month in the Carlton Hotel, 16th and K streets N.W., (202) 879-6900. As in New York, the French menu has international influences: black bass with green papaya and sauternes broth, sirloin with yellow garlic chives and sesame vinaigrette, foie gras with figs and port. About $150.

Aquarelle, 2650 Virginia Ave. N.W., (202) 298-4455, the new restaurant at the Watergate, opened this fall in space formerly occupied by Palladin and Jean Louis, with Robert Wiedmayer as chef. The menu is American-French, the dining room much as it was before, formal and with a matchless view of the Potomac. Offerings include duck foie gras with figs, Napoleon of salmon with roasted garlic purée and rabbit with sausage and savoy cabbage. About $150.

Cynthia Hacinli, a food and wine editor for Washingtonian Magazine, wrote this for The New York Times.

Up to
50%
OFF
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER AT A SPECIAL PRICE.
Yes, I would like to start receiving the International Herald Tribune. 29-11-96
The subscription term I prefer is:
☐ 12 months (plus 2 free months) ☐ 3 months (plus 2 free weeks)
☐ Please charge my: ☐ My check is enclosed (payable to the IHT)
☐ American Express ☐ VISA ☐ Diners Club ☐ Access ☐ MasterCard ☐ Eurocard
Credit card charges will be made in French Francs at current rates.
Card No: Exp. Date:
Signature:
For business orders, please indicate your VAT No: (IHT VAT Number FR 47 732021126)
Mr/Mrs/Ms Family Name:
First Name: Job Title:
Mailing Address:
City/Code: Country:
Home Tel N°: Business Tel N°:
E-Mail Address:
☐ I do not wish to receive information from other carefully screened companies
Mail or fax to: IHT, 181, Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.
Fax: +33 1 41 43 92 10
OR CALL +33 1 41 43 93 61
In Asia, call: +852 29 22 11 88.
In the USA, call toll-free: 1-800-882-2884
E-Mail No: subs@iht.com
Offer valid for new subscribers only. S/3/96

COUNTRY/CURRENCY		12 months +2 months FREE	% SAVINGS for 1 year	3 months +2 weeks FREE
AUSTRIA	A SCH	6,000	41	1,800
BELGIUM	B FR.	14,000	41	4,200
DENMARK	D KR.	3,400	35	1,050
FINLAND	F.M	2,400	40	700
FRANCE	F F	1,950	46	590
GERMANY*	D M.	700	30	210
GREAT BRITAIN	£	210	36	65
GREECE	DR.	90,000	32	27,000
IRELAND	£ IRL.	230	37	68
ITALY	LIRE	510,000	38	155,000
LUXEMBOURG	L FR.	14,000	41	4,200
NETHERLANDS	FL	790	32	240
NORWAY	N. KR.	3,500	30	1,050
PORTUGAL	ESC.	51,000	39	15,500
SPAIN	PTAS	55,000	33	16,500
SWEDEN	S. KR.	3,500	45	1,000
SWITZERLAND	S FR.	610	48	185
REST OF EUROPE ex CEI	$ US	485		145
CEI	$ US	750		225
UNITED STATES	$ US	360	34	115

* For information concerning hand delivery in major German cities call toll free IHT Germany at: 0130-84 85 85 or fax (069) 175 413. Under German regulations, a 2-week free period is granted for all new orders

BOOKS

THE PROSPECT BEFORE HER: A History of Women in Western Europe. Volume One 1500-1800

By Olwen Hufton. 638 pages. $35. Knopf.

Reviewed by Camille Paglia

IN Olwen Hufton's "The Prospect Before Her" there is a riveting vignette: The fishwives of Britain, Holland and France (who marketed what their husbands caught or bought) were "a vociferous bunch" — "coarse and unruly women" in the vanguard of political protest. To this day their name still describes shrill, fierce and formidable females.

Hufton's book offers a bounty of such anecdotal minutiae. English men too drunk to sustain an erection were said to suffer from "brewer's droop." German men "emasculated by their wives" were depicted as lions without claws. In 1652, Dutch Calvinist clergy condemned "goose-pulling tournaments where girls could fall over, showing more of their anatomy than was deemed modest." Venetian prostitutes identified themselves by wearing eye-catching, "high-heeled red shoes." Court records of prostitutes arrested in London between 1733 and 1739 show that "many gave false names, the favourite being Miss Nobody."

Hufton is professor of history at the European University Institute in Florence and the author of five scholarly books, concentrating on 18th-century France. Her new book is the first of two volumes on women in Western Europe over the past 500 years.

"The Prospect Before Her" is admirably written in clear, accessible prose. Except for a faddish locution in the first chapter title ("Constructing Woman"), it is unblemished by the kind of theoretical jargon or ideological bias that too often characterizes recent feminist and academic books.

Hufton's feel for the specific, gritty realities of everyday experience is the most appealing element of this book. She has a pungent way with words: "Fleas and polluted water are no respecters of persons." A country girl aspiring to marry was lucky to be taken on as a local farm servant: "Here she might learn, in addition to cleaning and scouring pots and pans, skills such as pickling, malting, salting, preserving by smoking, drying, storing in grease or brine, working in the byres milking cows and goats and in the hen yard, hoeing vegetables, laying potatoes, weeding, haymaking." At annual British hiring fairs, peasant women looking for work "brandished the tools of their trade": "Cooks wore brightly coloured aprons and carried a large spoon, milkmaids a stool." Urban households employed a laundry woman once a month to do the heavy washing, which meant handling unwieldy, sopping wet sheets: "Like the milkmaid, the laundry maid was celebrated for her muscle power." Hufton's chapter on motherhood is particularly powerful: "In every noble household and in the lowliest cottage, a birth was a collective drama, and the room of the birth was living theatre." She stresses "the public character of the birthing process," which was "women's business" and "the main way in which female sociability and solidarity expressed itself."

The book's later chapters, on French culture, are less successful. Oddly, as she moves into her own specialty, Hufton loses her sure sense of the general audience, most of whom will need to be more patiently briefed, for example, about the brilliant Parisian salons ruled by witty women of fashion. Except for a dramatic account of the march in October 1789 of 6,000 rebel women on the royal palace at Versailles, these chapters seem somewhat murky and fragmented.

There are, as well, some troubling sins of omission. Hufton's exposition has an excessive grimness, a disproportionate emphasis on the hardship and misery of premodern life with little sense of its balancing assurances and satisfactions. Not until page 129, for example, does a positive emotion appear (in a passing reference to "dancing and jollification" in rural Italy). While the externals are well-established, the soul is often missing from Hufton's portraits. Most seriously, she seems to lack sympathy for or deep understanding of religious feeling.

Camille Paglia, the author of three best-selling books, wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ON the diagramed deal from the Life Master Open Pairs, Adam Wildavsky of Jackson Heights, Queens, found a subtle way to make an overtrick in three no-trump. His partner's raise to game had denied a spade stopper, so Wildavsky would have retreated if he had lacked a stopper in his own hand.

West obliged by leading a spade — almost any other choice would have represented a major challenge. South won in his hand with the ten and led a low diamond, winning with the queen when West of necessity played low.

Four club winners left this position:

NORTH
♠ 9 5 2
♡ 10 9
◇ 6
♣ 5 5

WEST
♠ K Q 8
♡ K 2
◇ A 4
♣ —

EAST
♠ —
♡ Q J 7 6
◇ 10 9 8
♣ —

SOUTH
♠ A J 4
♡ A 8
◇ K 7
♣ —

When the last club was led from dummy, East and South each gave up a heart. West was now pressured in three suits.

If he had parted with a spade, South would have developed a trick in that suit. After a heart discard, the declarer would have taken the heart ace and led spades. He chose to throw the diamond four, and Wildavsky ducked a diamond to score his overtrick and win nearly all the match points.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 5 2
♡ 10 9
◇ Q 8
♣ A K Q J 5

WEST
♠ K Q 8 6 3
♡ K 2
◇ A 4 3 2
♣ 10 6

EAST (D)
♠ —
♡ Q J 7 6 4
◇ J 10 9 8
♣ 7 4 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A J 10 4
♡ A 8 5 3
◇ K 7 5
♣ 9 8

North and South were vulnerable.

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 N.T.	2 ♣	3 N.T.
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the spade six.

Advertisement

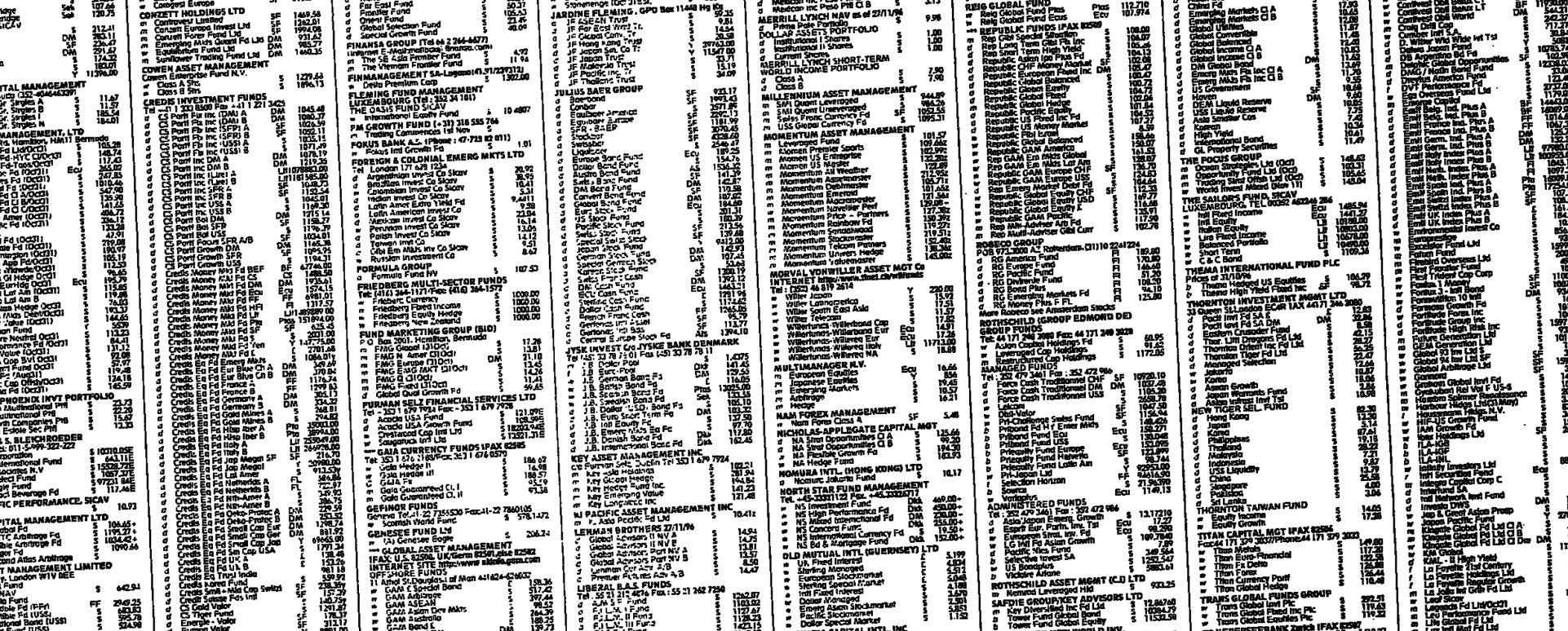
INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

November 28, 1996

available on Internet: http://www.iht.com/IHT/FUN/funds.html

For information on how to list your fund, fax K. Houri at (33-1) 41 43 92 12.

E-mail : funds@iht.com



The data ("the Data") in the list above is the raw material supplied by the fund groups ("the Fund Groups") listed therein. The data is delivered by each Fund Group to Micropal SA (Tel Paris 33-1-40-29-09-09), collated and reformatted into the List and then transmitted by Micropal to IHT. Micropal and IHT do not warrant the quality or accuracy of the List, the Data of the performance of sides of the Fund Groups and will not be liable for the List, the Data of Fund Groups to any extent. The List is not and shall not be deemed to be an offer by IHT or Micropal to sell securities of investments of any kind. Investments can fail as well as rise. Past performance does not guarantee future success. It is advisable to seek advice from a qualified independent adviser before investing.

NOKIA 9000 Communicator

هكذا من الاصل

Philips Set To Slash TV Unit's Staff

Fear of Asian Rivals Leads to a Shakeout

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

EINDHOVEN, Netherlands — Philips Electronics NV said Thursday that it would shake up its television operations in Western Europe by cutting the work force at three plants by half, eliminating 1,400 jobs.

The cuts are the result of a decision by the company in July to cut 6,000 jobs worldwide in its consumer-electronics division and take a charge of 760 million guilders ($443.6 million) to pay for the job losses.

Philips has also said it would take a fourth-quarter pretax charge of 1 billion guilders to finance additional cost cuts.

"What we are doing is relocating part of our production to areas where demand is high and production would prove more cost-effective," such as Eastern Europe, said Marijke van Hooren, a company spokeswoman.

The world's third-largest electronics maker said it would close a plant in Monza, Italy, and concentrate its television development and assembly businesses in Belgium and France.

Philips, like other European electronics makers, is facing sluggish demand for its television sets and fierce competition from cheaper Asian producers.

In July, Nokia Oy, a Finnish telecommunications-equipment maker, pulled out of the television business when it completed the sale of its television-making business to a Hong Kong maker, Semi-Tech Global Co.

The job cuts announced Thursday, the first cuts at Philips's television unit, bring the company's total job losses in Western Europe to 3,900 since July. The company has said it is looking for a buyer for its television factory in Greeneville, Tennessee, where it employs about 1,500 workers.

The move is the first announcement of big job losses since Cor Boonstra, president of Philips, joined the company in October and promised to cut costs.

The company's net profit in the third quarter dropped 77 percent, to 123 million guilders.

Philips did not break down the exact cost of the job losses.

The company spokeswoman, Ms. Van Hooren, said that the company's goal was to phase in the job losses by the end of 1997, adding that more cuts were in store.

Philips shares rose 1 guilder, to 68.6 guilders, in Amsterdam.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

François Guillot/Agence France-Presse

Count Alexandre de Lur Saluces examining the grapes that went into this year's Chateau d'Yquem.

LVMH Gulping Chateau d'Yquem

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The luxury-goods conglomerate LVMH said Thursday it was acquiring a controlling stake in Chateau d'Yquem, the producer of one of the world's finest and most and expensive wines.

Analysts said LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, which was buying a 55 percent stake in the property in southwestern France, was unlikely to make a large return on the wine alone if it continued the painstaking production methods that have made the Sauternes wine from Chateau d'Yquem a synonym for perfection.

But they speculated that the company may use the trade name to market other products.

"It's probably a value-creating business," Jacques-Franck Dossin of Goldman Sachs told Bloomberg Business News.

'It's simply a luxury-goods company buying a luxury wine, so it makes sense with the rest of the group."

Investors appeared to agree. LVMH's stock price rose 14 francs ($2.70), or 1.1 percent, to 1,284 francs a share. That added more than 1 billion francs to LVMH's market capitalization. The rise in the share price also suggested that LVMH expected the acquisition to generate at least 100 million francs of cash flow a year.

Analysts said the Yquem label would increase LVMH's snob appeal.

The price, which LVMH declined to disclose but which sources estimated at around 1 billion francs, appeared to be easily within the capabilities of LVMH, the world's largest luxury-goods company: In 1995, it had a net profit of more than 4 billion francs on sales of 30 billion francs.

LVMH has also recently moved to acquire a majority stake in DFS Group Ltd., an empire of duty-free shops, in the face of a rival bid from the investment house Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co.

DFS earlier said it would sell the controlling interest for $2.47 billion, but the agreement has been opposed by one of the firm's partners. Control of the duty-free business would be a natural match for LVMH's products, which are prestigious brand names with high margins.

Analysts estimated that the winery, one of 240 in the Sauternes-Barsac area, had annual sales of about $50 million.

The purchase was LVMH's first foray into the Bordeaux region, where Chateau d'Yquem, a sweet white Sauternes, is produced on only 113 hectares (280 acres).

The family firm that has headed the winery for two centuries has never hesitated to scrap a vintage that did not come up to its standards. In a good year, the vineyard produces 100,000 bottles of wine, costing about 500 francs for a recent bottle and 1,000 francs for one 10 years old.

A bottle of 1865 Chateau d'Yquem was sold recently at an auction in London for £5,280 ($8,870).

Much of the winery's production is sold in the United States and Japan.

LVMH has wine and spirit holdings in the Champagne and Cognac regions of France and wineries in California, Argentina, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand.

The family-controlled firms of the Bordeaux wine region had long been expecting a takeover bid from major outside investors. The former owner of Chateau d'Yquem, Count Alexandre de Lur-Saluces, appeared to be particularly vulnerable to an outside acquisition after reports of dissent in the family.

LVMH said it had signed an agreement with several members of the families associated with the Chateau d'Yquem vineyard and that they,

See WINE, Page 16

French Central Bank Stirs Devaluation Talk

Top Official Joins Giscard to Say A Lower Rate May Be Necessary

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — A Bank of France council member joined a public debate Thursday over whether French monetary policy was damaging the economy, saying a devaluation of the franc "may be necessary" because German officials had failed to understand the impact of their monetary and exchange-rate policy.

In an interview with the French daily Le Monde, Jean-Pierre Gerard said that a devaluation of the French currency against the Deutsche mark was undesirable. But he said: "I get the feeling the Germans aren't sufficiently aware of the problems their monetary policy can cause to the creation of the single European currency."

His criticism of German policy came days after similar if less biting comments from Paul Marchelli, who is considered an ally of Mr. Gerard in the Bank of France's nine-member policy council.

Their declarations also were similar to statements made recently by Valery Giscard d'Estaing, a former president of France, who revived a debate over France's decade-old policy of a strong and stable currency tied to the mark.

With the Bundesbank having frozen its interest rates, the Bank of France is effectively prevented from lowering its own rates, which it pegs above German rates to protect the franc.

Mr. Gerard called for talks with Germany over what he described as the currency-rate "imbalance."

"With two years to go to the single-currency deadline, it is surprising that there have not been talks on the overvaluation of European currencies versus the dollar," he said, referring to the European Union's plan to establish a common currency by Jan. 1, 1999. "Without this, we will have serious problems bringing this monetary-union process to fruition."

The French central banker said a "correct" value of the franc would be 6 francs to the dollar.

Assuming a franc-mark parity of 3.3539 francs and a dollar-franc rate of 6.2500 francs, Mr. Gerard said, the proper value of the dollar would be 1.87 DM. That compared with levels of 1.5330 DM and 5.1995 francs Thursday.

Mr. Gerard also said Italy should be one of the founding members of the single currency, and he accused Germany of resisting a country that had helped establish the European Union.

"It would be a mistake to create the euro without them," he said, referring to Italy and the name of the planned common European currency.

The lira rejoined Europe's exchange rate mechanism Sunday.

"At the time of Italy's re-entry into the European exchange-rate mechanism, Germany gave too much the impression that it did not want Italy," he said.

Meanwhile, Hans Tietmeyer, the president of the Bundesbank, praised the Italian government for laying the groundwork for a stable lira. He said the lira was "cordially welcome" back in the European exchange-rate mechanism after a four-year absence.

The debate lifted the mark against the franc, as the German currency closed at 3.3932 francs in Paris, up from 3.3888 francs Wednesday.

In reaction to the two central bankers' comments, Finance Minister Jean Arthuis of France said: "The discussions of the monetary policy council must remain secret. These questions are essential, but council members are not justified in making known their feelings or their questioning" of the situation.

The scope for French interest-rate cuts is limited, as economists expect the economy will slow or even stagnate in the fourth quarter. They see the unemployment rate rising beyond the current record of 12.6 percent.

Despite calls for faster rate reductions, economists in France still predict that most members of the Bank of France monetary policy council will stick to the bank's traditionally cautious policy on rates. *(AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters, Bridge News)*

■ French Remarks Buoy Dollar

The dollar closed higher against the mark in Europe after the French central banker's remarks spurred concern that the single European currency would not be as strong or as stable as the mark, The Associated Press reported from London.

The dollar was quoted at 1.5330 DM, up from 1.5278 DM, and at 5.1995 French francs, up from 5.1739 francs.

The U.S. currency also climbed against the yen as investors concluded that Japanese growth was not yet strong enough to warrant an early increase in interest rates.

The dollar was quoted at 113.66 yen, up from 113.33 yen, and at 1.2955 Swiss francs, up from 1.2917. The pound was quoted at $1.6807, up from $1.6765 on Wednesday.

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

U.S. Needs a Plan to Prolong 'American Century'

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — With 2000 fast approaching, people here are beginning to ask whether the "American century" can be prolonged into the next millennium. Fittingly, in the capital of the world's most optimistic nation, the general answer is, "Yes," but with at least one big proviso: The current dearth of strategic thinking about America's future leadership of the world economy must be rectified.

Americans face a conundrum. Their dependence on the world economy is growing while their influence over it is declining. That means they will increasingly be in need of friends.

But Washington also sees less need to grant other countries economic favors now that the Cold War has been won, and in the last two years, U.S. trade policy has deteriorated into litigiousness and mercantilism.

It was different when the Western-dominated postwar economic system was founded by a group of farsighted leaders 50 years ago. Then, a more altruistic United States could call all the shots, and, fortunately for the rest of the world, it did.

Since then, the U.S. share of the world economy has shrunk from more than one-half to about one-fifth. America is no longer the lone leader but the first among equals. Today, most trade and economic negotiations will not succeed without agreement between the United States and the European Union; and before launching major initiatives, Washington usually seeks support from its partners in the Group of Seven leading industrial nations — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

Two factors help Washington maintain considerable clout: America still has the world's biggest national market — many Asian countries have grown rich exporting to the United States — and it has been the most successful major industrial nation in adapting to the global economy.

But U.S. influence will continue its relative decline as the world's center of economic gravity shifts further toward developing countries — especially to rising economic powers such as China and India, whose cultures are very different from those of America's traditional allies.

In 20 years, according to W. Bowman Cutter, who was a senior economic adviser to President Bill Clinton until earlier this year, the combined economies of a new group of seven big countries — Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia, South Korea and Thailand — will outweigh those of the current G-7.

In one of a series of studies of America's future role published by the Woodrow Wilson Center, Mr. Cutter calls on the United States to start designing a new "global economic community" as ambitious as the structure built after World War II.

Among other things, he would bring China, India, Indonesia and Brazil into the G-7 in the next 10 years.

That may not be quite the best answer. Full G-7 membership should be offered only to genuine democracies, and Mr. Cutter seems to have forgotten Russia. But he is absolutely right that imaginative new ways must be found to promote cooperation rather than confrontation with the emerging powers.

In a similar vein, a study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies suggests that a long-term American objective should be to expand the number of industrialized democracies to the point where they constitute "a preponderance of world economic power, military capability and population."

America's long-term economic interests have not changed. They still require an open world economy run by commonly agreed rules backed by effective dispute-settlement procedures.

But if America wants the system to endure in the coming century, it will have to work harder than before.

That means it must pay more attention to its trading partners and stop undermining the system by unilateral actions taken for short-term political purposes, as it has so often in the past.

Bribery Fight Gathers Steam

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Almost 20 years after the United States became the only country to prohibit its corporations from bribing officials in other countries to win contracts, the rest of the world may finally be ready to act against bribes and corruption in business deals.

In recent months, international development funds, economic alliances and the International Chamber of Commerce have all taken steps to curb corruption.

The World Bank has begun spot audits of its development loan programs, which last year disbursed $19 billion, and instituted rules that empower it to investigate corruption complaints and to blacklist companies and governments guilty of large-scale corruption.

The 28 countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have committed themselves to ending the practice of allowing businesses to deduct foreign bribes, often reported as commissions or fees, from income taxes.

The International Monetary Fund has made "tackling corruption" an economic priority, authorizing its managing director, Michel Camdessus, to press for anti-corruption reforms in borrowing countries.

"The Ministry of Finance will no longer be able to tell the IMF, 'this is none of your business,'" Mr. Camdessus said.

These actions, after decades of broad international indifference to the issue, are in part a result of pressure from the United States, where corporations have complained that restrictions imposed on them in the U.S. law known as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 have cost them billions of dollars of business annually.

The U.S. companies understandably refuse to say which contracts they lost because they would not pay bribes, or what countries and governments may have been involved, but many are sure they have lost business because of the ban.

"We are highly vulnerable to bribery because of the size of the orders our members get," said Joel Johnson, vice president of the Aerospace Industries Association, a Washington-based organization representing manufacturers of civilian and military aircraft, radar and other airport equipment. "We've taken some considerable hits around the world."

International concern about corrupt practices is following a rising tide of scandal and growing evidence in many countries of public

See BRIBES, Page 16

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

Nov. 28

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.72	[illegible]	1.125	0.3330	0.1136*	—	5.4465*	1.3282	1.5130*	1.2765	1.333*
Brussels	31.635	[illegible]	20.61	6.0225	2.0886*	18.37	—	24.435	0.279	23.43	24.51*
Frankfurt	1.533	2.5724	—	0.2945	0.1013*	0.8913	4.8527*	1.1823	1.35*	1.1364	1.1875*
London (a)	1.688	—	2.5725	8.7239	2,539.52	2.9871	53.0269	2.175	190.9325	2.2642	216.8512
Madrid	129.85	216.452	84.21	24.813	8.526*	75.052	4.0862	99.616	113.022*	95.629	—
Milan	1,510.30	2,546.70	990.85	291.45	—	892.80	47.955	1,168.00	13.321	1,122.55	11.762
New York (b)	—	[illegible]			Closed						
Paris	5.20	8.73	3.3932	—	0.3425*	3.0242	0.1640	4.0139	4.5703*	3.8530	4.029*
Tokyo	113.38	191.47	74.15	21.90	0.75	66.09	3.5997	87.76	—	84.14	0.8805
Toronto	1.3401	2.2562	0.8794	0.2590	0.0821*	0.7846	0.4288*	1.0401	1.1857*	—	1.045*
Zurich	1.2995	2.1857	0.8460	0.2482	0.0857*	0.7544	4.1065*	—	1.1396*	0.9619	1.0040*
1 ECU	1.261	2.1209	1.923	6.5725	1,912.14	2.1734	39.5191	1.6375	143.561	1.7057	161.139
1 SDR	1.4482	[illegible]	2.2087	N.Q.	2,191.56	2.4769	45.4776	1.8491	163.642	1.9580	185.799

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; New York and Toronto rates at 3 p.m.

*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Nov. 27

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9998	Greek drac.	239.72	Mex. peso	7.865	S. Afr. rand	4.56
Australian $	1.2326	Hong Kong $	7.7315	N. Zealand $	1.4126	S. Kor. won	829.50
Austrian sch.	10.78	Hung. forint	160.51	Norw. krone	6.4053	Swed. krona	6.6629
Brazil real	1.0315	Indian rupee	35.72	Phil. peso	26.27	Taiwan $	27.49
Chinese yuan	8.3283	Indo. rupiah	2344.88	Polish zloty	2.84	Thai baht	25.46
Czech koruna	26.91	Irish £	0.5954	Port. escudo	153.90	Turkish lira	100769.
Danish krone	5.847	Israeli shek.	3.2418	Russ ruble	5500.0	UAE dirham	3.6705
Egypt. pound	3.3925	Kuwaiti dinar	0.2985	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	471.50
Fin. markka	4.5829	Malay. ring.	2.5259	Sing. $	1.4014		

Forward Rates

Nov. 27

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.6774	1.6762	1.6748	Japanese yen	112.64	112.13	111.70
Canadian dollar	1.3391	1.3360	1.3334	Swiss franc	1.2860	1.2824	1.2791
Deutsche mark	1.5214	1.5186	1.5160				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from the Associated Press, Bloomberg and Reuters.

Libid-Libor Rates

Nov. 28

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 3/16 - 3 1/4	1 15/16 - 2 1/16	6 1/16 - 6 3/16	3 3/16 - 3 5/16	1/4 - 1/2	4 1/16 - 4 3/16
3-month	5 3/8 - 5 1/2	3 - 3 1/8	1 15/16 - 2 1/16	6 3/16 - 6 5/16	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	3/16 - 1/2	4 1/16 - 4 3/16
6-month	5 3/8 - 5 1/2	3 - 3 1/8	1 15/16 - 2 1/16	6 5/16 - 6 7/16	3 3/16 - 3 5/16	7/16 - 9/16	4 1/16 - 4 3/16
1-year	5 1/2 - 5 11/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	2 1/16 - 2 3/16	7 - 7 1/8	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	5/16 - 5/8	4 1/8 - 4 1/4

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/4	8 1/4
Federal funds	Clsd.	5 1/4
90-day CDs dealers	—	5.38
180-day CP dealers	—	5.25
3 month Treasury bill	—	5.02
1-year Treasury bill	—	5.13
2-year Treasury bill	—	5.63
5-year Treasury note	—	5.90
7-year Treasury note	—	5.99
10-year Treasury note	—	6.12
30-year Treasury bond	—	6.43
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	—	4.91
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.42	0.42
1-month interbank	0.53	0.53
3-month interbank	0.53	0.53
6-month interbank	0.59	0.59
10-year Govt bond	2.52	2.57
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.18	3.07
1-month interbank	3.30	3.13
3-month interbank	3.24	3.22
6-month interbank	3.25	3.22
10-year Bond	5.76	5.80

Britain		
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	6.13	6.00
1-month interbank	6 3/16	6 1/16
3-month interbank	6 5/16	6 5/16
6-month interbank	6 1/2	6 1/2
10-year Gilt	7.45	7.48
France		
Intervention rate	3.20	3.20
Call money	3 5/16	3 5/16
1-month interbank	3 3/8	3 5/16
3-month interbank	3 7/16	3 3/8
6-month interbank	3 1/2	3 7/16
10-year OAT	5.74	5.85

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	N.A.	372.69	— 1.10
London	372.20	372.75	— 0.25
New York		Closed	

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (Feb.)

Source: Reuters.

Samsung's Talks On Fokker Deal End in Failure

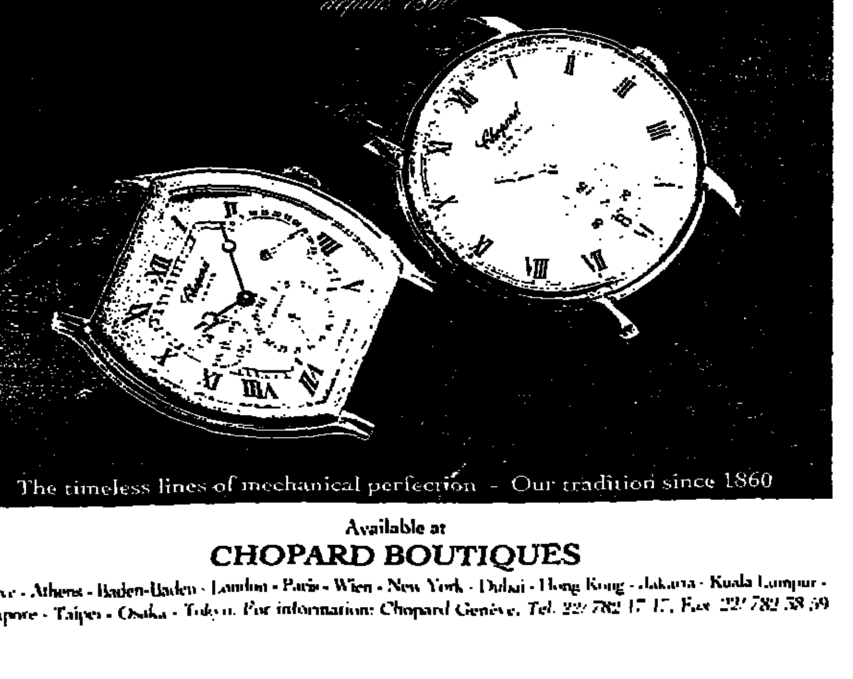
The Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — Receivers of Fokker NV said Thursday they had not reached agreement with Samsung Co. for the takeover of the bankrupt Dutch aircraft maker's production facilities.

Economics Minister Hans Wijers said Fokker's chance of survival were now small.

Negotiations between the South Korean conglomerate and the Dutch government began Oct. 16. A Dutch source said Samsung had asked the government for another month to make a decision. The receivers discussed the request with Fokker's suppliers, but they were unwilling to wait, the source said.

According to Fokker, Samsung was unwilling to help suppliers who had suffered financially from delays in the negotiations.



Available at
CHOPARD BOUTIQUES
Genève - Athens - Baden-Baden - London - Paris - Wien - New York - Dubai - Hong Kong - Jakarta - Kuala Lumpur - Singapore - Taipei - Osaka - Tokyo. For information: Chopard Genève, Tel. 22/782 17 17, Fax 22/782 58 59

هكذا من الاصل

THE AMERICAS

Accord on Digital TV Standard Puts the Squeeze on Filmmakers

By Mark Landler
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — This week's landmark agreement on a uniform standard for digital television left a conspicuous group unhappy: Hollywood directors and cinematographers.

Despite aggressive lobbying by directors such as Steven Spielberg, the filmmakers received no assurances that their movie images would not be cropped to fit the screens of the next generation of television sets.

A lawyer for the directors and cinematographers said Wednesday that they would continue to negotiate with the broadcast networks, but he acknowledged that the group's leverage was dwindling.

"The proverbial train is leaving the station, and we're not on it," said the lawyer, Henry Goldberg, who represents the Coalition of Film Makers, a lobbying group that includes the Directors Guild of America and the American Society of Cinematographers.

On Tuesday, the computer, broadcasting and consumer electronics industries said they had broken a long stalemate in establishing technical standards for a new form of digital television, which will offer clearer images and more channels than today's television.

The Federal Communications Commission said it was likely to ratify the new standard by the end of the year.

Such action is expected to prompt computer and consumer electronics companies to begin building the first digital television sets and computers for delivery in the spring of 1998.

Last summer, when the communications commission seemed on the verge of approving a previous digital standard, the filmmakers joined the computer industry in opposing the proposal.

The computer companies, led by Microsoft Corp., objected that the standard favored broadcasters and makers of television sets. The filmmakers raised an older complaint: that their films would be damaged artistically as they were squeezed from the big screen to the small screen.

If the 'Last Supper' had had to be cropped to fit on today's screens, six of the Apostles would have been edged out of the picture.

"With digital television, we finally have the opportunity to show films at home the way they're shown in the theater," said Larry Chernikoff, a lobbyist for the filmmakers. "Let's take that opportunity."

Mr. Chernikoff was urging the communications commission to mandate that the networks show wide-screen movies in their original proportions on digital television.

But that process, called letter-boxing, results in horizontal black bands appearing on the screen above and below the image.

The broadcast networks resist running movies this way because, they say, viewers dislike it. The major movie studios have generally gone along with the networks; the industry's lobbying group, the Motion Picture Association of America, did not join in the coalition's campaign.

Digital broadcasting means much more than snazzy pictures. It will break down the distinction between televisions and computers, displaying pictures and sound equally well on both. Digital broadcasting will bring Internet services to television as well as to computers — and at rates 1,000 times as fast as is now common.

People involved in the talks said the filmmakers had made a passionate argument against cropping their pictures. As an example, they said that if the "Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci had been cropped to fit on today's screens, six of the 12 Apostles would have to be edged out of the picture.

Even on the wider screens of tomorrow's digital sets, they said, three of the apostles would have to disappear.

But once the computer industry prevailed in its effort to remove a set of technical specifications from the standard, the momentum to help the filmmakers vanished, the people involved in the talks said.

"The artists had a long-running emotional cause that happened to coincide with our issue," said Jim Burger, a Washington lawyer who represented Apple Computer Inc. "But their issue was tough to solve because it was in a gray area between technical standards and intellectual property."

Network executives said that if filmmakers felt so strongly about the issue, they should negotiate it in their own contracts with the studios.

"This is really a matter of copyright and contract," said Martin D. Franks, a senior vice president of the CBS network involved in the industry talks.

To a certain extent, digital technology will help the filmmakers simply because the screens will be wider on the new sets. As a result, the broadcasters will not have to contort the films as radically to make them fit on the new televisions.

Baxter Delays Immuno Bid

Bloomberg Business News

DEERFIELD, Illinois — Baxter International Inc. said Thursday it would postpone its planned $965 million offer for all of Immuno International AG because it had not yet received antitrust clearance for the transaction.

Baxter said it now planned to make its offer for all the bearer shares of the Swiss blood-products maker in January because it might not receive clearance from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission until the end of this year. It did not give a reason for the anticipated delay.

Baxter previously said it would make its tender offer this month.

The purchase has been cleared by the European Commission, the executive arm of the European Union.

Rolf Fuchs, a management board member of Immuno, said the delay did not mean the terms of the offer would have to be changed.

"As far as we know, everything's on track," Mr. Fuchs said. "The FTC seems to be a few days behind schedule, and we don't really want to launch the whole project just before Christmas." Representatives of Baxter could not be reached for elaboration on the company's statement.

Baxter plans to buy Immuno over three years by paying about $715 million for its shares and assuming $250 million in debt. The three-stage purchase would create one of the largest makers of blood treatments for infections and hemophilia.

Officials Race to Keep Canadian Airline Aloft

By Anthony DePalma
New York Times Service

TORONTO — Government, union and airline officials are scrambling to meet a series of deadlines that could keep Canadian Airlines International, the country's second-largest carrier, in the air and out of bankruptcy.

Canadian Air, which will carry a million passengers across the border with the United States this year, has accumulated huge debts and posted a $64.3 million loss for the third quarter. Company officials have said they must have a restructuring plan in place by Saturday or creditors could start seizing assets.

A month ago the company said it only had enough cash on hand to cover obligations through the end of the year. On Nov. 15, every member of the board resigned to protect themselves against possible creditor lawsuits.

Kevin Benson, Canadian Air's chief executive, has said he will not put the company into receivership. Instead he has focused on a restructuring that includes a 10 percent salary cut from the company's 16,400 workers. He gave the company's six unions until midnight Thursday to accept the salary reduction. Late in the day, only four had agreed.

The two remaining unions are the Canadian Automobile Workers, which represents 3,500 ticket agents, and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, which represents 2,700 flight attendants.

Since Monday, company officials have been locked in negotiations with the unions and with representatives of the federal government and local governments in and around Vancouver, British Columbia. Canadian Air is based in Calgary, Alberta, and uses Vancouver as a western hub and for flights to Asia.

On Tuesday, local officials in western Canada committed themselves to a plan to raise some $26 million in aid or relief for Canadian Air that would lessen the need for a 10 percent salary cut from the unions. But the plan hinges on agreement from the national government and the unions.

David Gersovitz, Canadian correspondent for the Commercial Aviation Report, said he believed that Canadian Air was not running out of cash but was trying to force the unions to make concessions.

"I've not heard of the company being in arrears to a single major creditor," Mr. Gersovitz said.

The company has not turned a profit since being formed by the merger of several regional carriers in 1987. It has gone to the brink of bankruptcy several times in recent years.

In 1992, the national and provincial governments rescued the company with a $90 million loan, and in 1994, AMR Corp.'s American Airlines unit paid $187 million for a 25 percent voting stake in Canadian Air.

So far, American has not expressed any interest in expanding its stake.

"What went wrong with Canadian Airlines International is partly a function of the Canadian market, which is basically just an east-west market," said Julius Maldutis, an airline analyst at Salomon Brothers in New York.

"There are those who suggest that the domestic Canadian market is too small to have two huge competitive carriers."

CURRENCY AND CAPITAL MARKET SERVICES

Peter G. Catranis
Forex & Futures Specialist

Call today for your complimentary copy of my latest research reports, market opinions and performance records. Learn how you can put my 19 years of professional trading experience to work directly for you.

FCM

OUTSTANDING *Analysis for All Major Markets* SUPERIOR *Selection of Managed Accounts*
EXCEPTIONAL *Execution Forex or Futures* FREE *Trading Software & Data*
COMMISSION *Spot FX 2-5 Pip Price Spreads* COMMISSION *Futures $12-$36 Per R/T*

Prepare for Tomorrow's Major Market Moves by Calling Me Toll-Free Today

Australia 1800125944	Belgium 080015880	Bermuda 18008784178	Brazil 0008119215513	Colombia 980120837
Cyprus 08090605	Denmark 80016132	Finland 08001110064	France 05902246	Greece 00800119213013
Germany 0130829666	Hong Kong 8007209	Ireland 1800559294	Israel 1771000102	Italy 167875928
Japan 0031126509	Korea 0038110243	Luxembourg 08004552	Mexico 958008784178	Netherlands 060220657
N.Antilles 18009945757	N. Zealand 0800441880	Portugal 050112632	Singapore 8001202501	S.Africa 0800996337
Spain 900931007	Sweden 020793158	Switzerland 1557233	Thailand 0018001192166 13	Turkey 00800139219013
United Kingdom 0800966632	United States 18009945757	US-Toll Voice +714-376-8020	US-Toll Fax +714-376-8025	

IFEXCO
International Foreign Exchange Corporation
THE RELIABLE PARTNER
SEE US ON NBC TEXT PAGES 355 & 356
Discounted commissions - 24 hour trading desk
Internet site: www.ifexco.CH - Reuters page IFEX
86 bis route de Frontenex - 1208 Geneva - Switzerland
Tel (41) 22 849 7411 - 24hr (41) 22 849 7440 - Fax (41) 22 700 1913

SURGE TRADING S.A.
surge trading
FOREX & FUTURES BROKERS
24 HOUR DESK
FREE FOREX AND COMMODITIES REPORTS VIA E MAIL
VISIT OUR SITE AT http://www.surgetrd.com
21-23 Rue du Clos, CH-1211 GENEVA 6
Tel.: (41) 22-700 2051 Fax: (41) 22-700 2061
SEE US ON CNN - TEXT PAGE 744

INSTRACORP
A US Public Company, NASD Bulletin Board INSC
INSTRACORP acquired the world-wide rights to an internationally patented unique Needle Impulse Generator (NIG) in the form of a small module which, when installed in any electrical appliance will save 30 to 80% on electrical consumption without effecting the unit's output or performance. Already several major industrial groups are negotiating the integration of the NIG in their products. Independent labs and research institutions in the US, Germany and elsewhere attested the NIG's performance. INSTRACORP appointed Aminex S.A.R.L as underwriters for their new issue of 8,000,000 common shares, $ 0.001 par value, Reg S with two years restriction, and Aminex is offering to non US citizens or residents, on "first come first serve basis" such shares at the following prices: First 2,000,000 shares at $ 3.00/share, second 2,000,000 shares at $ 5.00/share, third 2,000,000 shares at $ 7.00/share and last 2,000,000 shares at $9.00 share. Minimum subscription is 10,000 shares. Please contact:
Aminex S.A.R.L.
Tel.: +41 22-787-5757 - Fax: 787- 5758
Geneva, Switzerland

Finding the right investment adviser takes time.
It's never too late to talk to a Swiss banker.
We understand your needs for privacy, security and performance.
For detailed information, please contact us now:
☎ 0041-1-267 54 79 Fax 0041-1-267 54 82
Name, First Name:
Address:
Town, Country:
Tel:
Fax:
UeberseeBank
Limmatquai 2, CH 8024 Zurich
Head office: Limmatquai 2, CH 8024 Zurich, Switzerland
Branch: 3, quai du Mont Blanc, CH 1201 Geneva, Switzerland

SUCCESSFUL FUTURES MARKETS
PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT
HIGH RETURN LIMITED RISK
NO MINIMUM PERIOD OF INVESTMENT
PROVEN TRACK RECORDS
ASK FOR A BROCHURE FREE OF CHARGE IN
ENGLISH OR IN FRENCH
GOLD HILL SERVICES SA
RUE DE BOURG 6,1003 LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND
TEL.(41.21) 320 58 31 FAX (41.21) 320 58 35
PORTFOLIO MANAGERS AND BROKERS SINCE 1982
MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK FUTURES EXCHANGE

REHDER & PARTNER AG, ZUG - Switzerland
SENNWEIDSTRASSE 43 - 6312 STEINHAUSEN
FOREX
Managed Accounts
Please contact:
Martin Gloor, Tel.: 0041 41 740 00 22 - Fax: 0041 41 740 00 29

MAJOR US FINANCIAL SERVICES FIRM SEEKS
BROKERAGE/MARKETING AFFILIATIONS
- Alternative Investment Products & Support
- Excellent Commission Opportunities
- Competitive Execution and Clearing Rates
- Providing Global Market Access

For Information Contact: R. Fivian or N. Hirsch
(US)001-1312-341-7819 / Fax 001-1312-341-7599
Fox Investments - A Division of Rosenthal Collins Group L.P.
Member of All Principal US Futures Exchanges

Your 'one stop' Brokerage connection to the world's Futures, Options & Forex markets
Linnco
Linnco Europe Ltd • Regulated by the SFA
125 Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1LE
+44 (0) 171 256 6600

Well known Swiss Foreign Exchange Broker
Looking for Introducing Brokers World-wide for retails clients
Top quality back-office, competitive conditions
Please call: + 41 22 318 51 05

For further details on how to place your listing contact:
WILL NICHOLSON in London
Tel.: (44) 171 836 48 02 - Fax: (44) 171 240 2254
Herald Tribune

BRIBES: *U.S. Law Leads to a Broad Drive Against Corruption*

Continued from Page 15

disgust with corrupt officials and institutions. From South Korea to India, from Italy and France to Venezuela and Brazil, scandals have forced politicians from office and sent executives to jail.

"The tide is definitely turning," said Peter Eigen, head of Transparency International, a group devoted to fighting business corruption, financed in part by U.S. corporations.

"We don't know whether corruption is getting worse, but we do know it is not being tolerated as it was."

Mr. Eigen, who left the World Bank to found his organization because of the corruption he saw in developing countries, called the bank's stand "revolutionary," saying, "In the past, the bank shied away from the corruption issue because it looked like interference in a country's domestic affairs."

No one knows how much corruption there is in the business world or to what extent it is increasing. Many specialists and analysts say it is probably growing with the world economy and with the leap in foreign direct investment in emerging economies, to $167 billion last year from $44 billion in 1990.

Bribery and kickbacks have become common in former Communist countries as they embrace free enterprise. The spread of democracy can create new incentives for corruption as competing political parties seek campaign contributions. In some Third World countries, development projects can be more valuable for their opportunities for corruption than for their direct benefits.

"My own commercial experience, spanning 30 years and five continents, convinces me it is a far more serious and damaging problem than it was even 10 years ago," a British executive, George Moody-Stuart, wrote last year in his book, "Grand Corruption in Third World Development."

At the same time, corporations have a great incentive to go along with bribe solicitations: They can mean contracts worth tens or hundreds of millions of dollars for military supplies, aircraft, civil works and communications.

In a report in 1995, Mickey Kantor, then the U.S. trade representative, said U.S. companies had lost $45 billion of contracts the previous year because of the American law against bribery.

That report, like the U.S. companies' public complaints, did not identify any other corporations or countries allegedly involved. It is based on a classified study that used CIA resources.

The U.S. law resulted in part from a Senate investigation from 1975 to 1977 of Lockheed Corp., now Lockheed Martin Corp., which was found to have paid $22 million in bribes to win aircraft orders. In 1995, the company pleaded guilty under the act to new charges, admitting that an executive had paid an Egyptian official to ensure the purchase of three of its C-130 cargo planes.

Other experts point to forces that are making the public less tolerant of corruption, ranging from its increased visibility to a better understanding of its cost. The end of the Cold War, for example, has freed democracies from having to tolerate graft-ridden regimes to keep them in the Western camp, argued Moses Naim, a former Venezuelan trade and industry minister who is now director of Latin American studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

WINE: *LVMH to Buy Chateau d'Yquem, Fine Sauternes Maker*

Continued from Page 15

primarily represented by Eugene de Lur-Saluces, would cooperate in "ensuring the continued success of Yquem" by contributing the family's "know-how and traditions."

Like all good Sauternes wines, Chateau d'Yquem is expensive because of the labor required to produce it and the uncertainties of the weather. It requires a hot summer, rain in late September and a warm October to produce the *botrytis cinerea* fungus, known as the "noble rot," that gives Chateau d'Yquem a characteristic spicy flavor. The grapes are selected individually and picked by hand.

Most Bordeaux vines yield at least half a bottle of wine a year; Yquem's vines yield only a glass in a good year, and in a bad year — like 1992 — nothing at all.

The wine is typically consumed in very small sips with foie gras.

The wine, however, has not had a good vintage since 1990, and prices have stagnated, Bloomberg reported. The harvest this year could change that, along with the lagging fortunes of 240 winemakers in the Sauternes-Barsac region. Rain in late September and a warm October ensured that a higher proportion of the grapes had the botrytis cinerea fungus.

Separately, Count Xavier de Pontac, who runs the family-owned vineyardChateau de Myrat, told Bloomberg, "1996 will be a good year, that's for sure."

A court ruling last year raised questions about the extent to which LVMH might be able to control the Yquem brand name in France. Chateau d'Yquem lost an appeal alleging counterfeiting against a Paris-based company, Jacques Benedict, that was using the name Yquem to sell jewelry, cosmetics and laundry soap. The court said that because the products were not wine, Benedict was not at fault.

But in another case in 1993, a court of appeals in Paris said the designer house Yves Saint Laurent could not call a perfume Champagne, on the grounds that the name belonged to the producers and dealers of wines from the Champagne region.

■ Good Bordeaux Vintage

Red wine producers just 50 kilometers from the Sauternes-Barsac region appear set for their third consecutive successful vintage, Bloomberg reported.

"A good vintage of Sauternes is long overdue after the magnificent 1988, 1989 and 1990 vintages," said Paul Bowker, a director and head of Christie's wine auction department in London.

"Sauternes prices haven't been caught up in the price spiral in which we're seeing prices going up on average by 20, 30 and 40 percent a year, and sometimes as much as 100 percent," Mr. Bowker said. Wine experts, however, expect another good year by top red-wine producers.

Markets Closed

U.S. markets were closed Thursday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Nov. 28, 1996

LONDON METALS (LME)
Dollars per metric ton
Aluminum (High Grade)

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest
Spot	1528½	1529½	1519½	1520½	
Forward	1534.00	1535.00	1546.00	1547.00	

Copper Cathodes (High Grade)

Spot	2525.00	2530.00	2545.00	2550.00	
Forward	2264.00	2265.00	2272.00	2273.00	

Lead

Spot	686½	697½	696½	697½	
Forward	694.00	695.00	704.00	705.00	

Nickel

Spot	6835.00	6845.00	6945.00	6950.00	
Forward	6925.00	6935.00	7030.00	7040.00	

Tin

Spot	6045.00	6075.00	6100.00	6110.00	
Forward	6085.00	6095.00	6115.00	6120.00	

Zinc (Special High Grade)

Spot	1047.00	1048.00	1057½	1058.00	
Forward	1070.00	1071.00	1081.00	1081½	

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest

LONG GILT (LIFFE)
£50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct

Dec96	111-01	110-15	110-31	+ 0-12	61,877
Mar97	10-11	109-26	110-10	+ 0-12	14,296
Jun97	N.T.	N.T.	109-27	+ 0-12	12

Est. sales: 52,722. Prev. sales: 122,588
Prev. open int.: 156,185 off 2,383

GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE)
DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct

Dec96	101.65	101.33	101.64	+ 0.27	288,032
Mar97	100.72	100.43	100.72	+ 0.26	71,428
Jun97	N.T.	N.T.	99.76	+ 0.26	36

Est. sales: 86,368. Prev. sales: 188,727
Prev. open int.: 271,496 up 4,752

10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF)
FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct

Dec 97	128.30	128.04	128.28	+ 0.20	168,156
Mar 97	128.28	128.02	128.28	+ 0.24	66,895
Jun 97	127.10	126.80	127.08	+ 0.26	6,768

Est. volume: 94,364. Open int.: 241,819 up 14,308.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE)
ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct

Dec96	127.95	127.25	127.77	— 0.09	69,779
Mar97	127.60	126.45	126.84	— 0.14	34,167
Jun97	N.T.	N.T.	126.79	— 0.14	80

Est. sales: 51,407. Prev. sales: 80,873
Prev. open int.: 105,946 up 5,446

3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE)
£500,000 - pts of 100 pct

Dec96	93.56	93.53	93.55	+ 0.01	96,757
Mar97	93.30	93.26	93.29	+ 0.01	106,600
Jun97	93.03	92.98	93.01	+ 0.01	99,585
Sep97	92.86	92.81	92.84	+ 0.01	56,288
Dec97	92.77	92.71	92.75	+ 0.02	40,474
Mar98	92.70	92.65	92.69	+ 0.02	38,773
Jun98	92.64	92.59	92.63	+ 0.03	23,364
Sep98	92.58	92.53	92.59	+ 0.04	16,794
Dec98	92.54	92.52	92.54	+ 0.04	15,382
Mar99	92.51	92.48	92.50	+ 0.03	7,861
Jun99	92.49	92.47	92.49	+ 0.05	4,665
Sep99	92.47	92.45	92.47	+ 0.04	4,608

Est. sales: 38,697. Prev. sales: 79,082
Prev. open int.: 503,127 up 4,217

3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE)
DM1 million - pts of 100 pct

Dec96	96.77	96.74	96.77	+ 0.02	205,635
Mar97	96.61	96.75	96.61	+ 0.04	203,442
Jun97	96.71	96.64	96.71	+ 0.06	168,309
Sep97	96.53	96.48	96.53	+ 0.05	133,287
Dec97	96.37	96.32	96.37	+ 0.05	122,561
Mar98	96.08	96.02	96.07	+ 0.06	72,655
Jun98	95.83	95.75	95.83	+ 0.07	54,886
Sep98	95.55	95.47	95.54	+ 0.06	49,554
Dec98	95.24	95.17	95.24	+ 0.06	44,903
Mar99	94.98	94.92	94.98	+ 0.06	34,028
Jun99	94.73	94.69	94.74	+ 0.06	12,557
Sep99	94.50	94.45	94.50	+ 0.04	12,561

Est. sales: 1,782. Prev. sales: 1,144
Prev. open int.: 71,101 up 1,257

3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF)
FF5 million - pts of 100 pct

Dec 96	96.47	96.43	96.46	+ 0.00	37,924
Mar 97	96.42	96.37	96.42	+ 0.02	58,821
Jun 97	96.41	96.35	96.41	+ 0.03	33,633
Sep 97	96.36	96.31	96.36	+ 0.02	18,725
Dec 97	96.28	96.25	96.27	+ 0.02	13,474
Mar 98	96.12	96.07	96.11	+ 0.02	12,842
Jun 98	95.90	95.88	95.89	+ 0.01	10,559
Sep 98	95.65	95.63	95.65	+ 0.01	9,145
Dec 98	95.40	95.37	95.40	+ 0.02	6,024
Mar 99	95.11	95.09	95.11	+ 0.02	10,403
Jun 99	94.85	94.84	94.84	+ 0.00	2,998
Sep 99	94.61	94.60	94.60	+ 0.01	2,272

Est. volume: 59,888. Open int.: 218,912 off 599.

3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE)
ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct

Dec96	92.91	92.85	92.91	+ 0.02	69,169
Mar97	93.56	93.47	93.55	+ 0.01	76,772
Jun97	93.86	93.80	93.86	Unch.	45,269
Sep97	93.98	93.89	93.94	— 0.02	27,302
Dec97	93.95	93.89	93.93	— 0.02	13,627
Mar98	93.91	93.87	93.89	— 0.03	12,845

Est. sales: 23,517. Prev. sales: 34,063
Prev. open int.: 243,184 up 1,884

GASOIL (IPE)
U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest
Dec 96	219.25	217.00	217.50	+ 1.25	20,752
Jan 97	216.00	214.00	214.50	+ 0.50	38,934
Feb 97	208.50	206.75	207.25	Unch.	10,311
Mar 97	200.00	198.50	198.75	— 0.50	7,115
Apr 97	191.50	190.75	190.25	— 0.50	5,148
May 97	N.T.	N.T.	185.00	— 0.50	2,877
Jun 97	182.00	181.00	181.00	— 0.25	6,231
Jul 97	N.T.	N.T.	179.00	— 0.25	811
Aug 97	N.T.	N.T.	178.25	— 0.25	695
Sept 97	N.T.	N.T.	177.25	— 0.25	285
Oct 97	N.T.	N.T.	177.50	— 0.25	896

Est. sales: 6,951. Open Int.: 86,140 up 209

BRENT OIL (IPE)
U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest
Jan 97	22.89	22.55	22.60	— 0.12	67,549
Feb 97	22.29	21.98	22.00	— 0.23	38,818
Mar 97	21.74	21.47	21.49	— 0.21	29,670
Apr 97	21.22	21.10	21.00	— 0.22	12,057
May 97	20.78	20.54	20.53	— 0.20	5,924
June 97	20.35	20.11	20.10	— 0.20	11,488
July 97	20.00	19.82	19.77	— 0.18	7,674
Aug 97	N.T.	N.T.	19.49	— 0.17	2,542
Sep 97	N.T.	N.T.	19.23	— 0.18	4,985
Oct 97	N.T.	N.T.	18.99	— 0.19	2,013

Est. sales: 15,795. Open Int.: 180,869 up 3,227

Stock Indexes

FTSE 100 (LIFFE)
£25 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest
Dec96	4057.0	4045.0	4054.0	+ 1.0	55,986
Mar97	4076.0	4065.0	4082.5	0.0	8,629
Jun97	4092.0	4090.0	4102.0	0.0	1,813

Est. sales: 9,931. Prev. sales: 20,485
Prev. open int.: 66,325 up 1,030

CAC 40 (MATIF)
FF200 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Open Interest
Nov 96	2296.0	2270.0	2292.0	+ 18.00	16,309
Dec 96	2301.0	2275.0	2296.5	+ 18.50	25,519
Jan 97	2296.5	2282.0	2301.5	+ 18.50	1,973
Mar 97	2314.0	2309.0	2313.0	+ 18.50	6,195
Jun 97	N.T.	N.T.	2280.0	+ 18.00	165
Sep 97	N.T.	N.T.	2290.0	+ 18.50	5,605
Mar 98	N.T.	N.T.	2329.5	+ 18.50	3,755
Sep 98	N.T.	N.T.	2315.0	+ 18.00	660

Est. volume: 38,944. Open Int.: 60,211 off 1,668.

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	N.A.	1,442.90
Reuters	1,880.00	1,877.08
D.J. Futures	Clsd.	146.86
CRB	Clsd.	244.65

Business Message Center
Appears every Wednesday.
To advertise contact Fred Ronan
Tel.: + 33 1 41 43 93 91 Fax: + 33 1 41 43 93 70
or your nearest IHT office or representative.

EUROPE

Lufthansa Retreats From Profit Forecast And Sees a 10% Drop

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Lufthansa AG said Thursday its third-quarter pretax profit fell slightly on a loss at its cargo unit and rising fuel prices, and it acknowledged its full-year profit would fall at least 10 percent.

But Juergen Weber, its chairman, said the airline expected "clearly improved" earnings in 1997 to result from measures aimed at bolstering its competitive position.

Lufthansa said third-quarter pretax profit fell to 315 million Deutsche marks ($207.8 million) from 317 million DM in the year-earlier period. It said pretax profit for the full year would "at best" be 10 percent lower than its 1995 pretax profit of 756 million, backing down from a forecast that it would match last year's result.

Mr. Weber said measures to ensure future profitability had included expansions of alliances with other carriers. The company also plans to launch a new low-cost airline in Berlin in 1998, he said.

Klaus Schlede, Lufthansa's chief financial officer, said: "What has burdened us above all is the cargo business. On top of that there is an increase in fuel prices."

In the first nine months, pretax profit fell 14 percent, to 434 million DM, a smaller decline than the 37 percent year-on-year decline Lufthansa posted in the first half. Rising fuel prices since June added 193 million DM to operating costs in the nine months, the company said.

Lufthansa's cargo business posted a loss of 66 million DM for the nine months, but the company said it expected the business to break even in the fourth quarter.

Lufthansa's passenger load factor in the first nine months fell one percentage point, to 70.4 percent, although its total number of passengers rose 1.4 percent.

Load factor, a crucial measure of performance for airlines, reflects the volume of passengers on individual flights and therefore how profitable the flights are.

Mr. Weber said Lufthansa was also hurt by fare wars waged by subsidized state airlines in the second quarter.

Lufthansa's ordinary shares rose 0.12 DM to close at 19.87.

"The news was very much in line with what people had expected," said Robert Willis, analyst at Schroders in London. "No one had taken their view that full-year profit would be flat on last year."

Lufthansa said its fourth-quarter earnings would depend on the resolution of a wage dispute with the white-collar union DAG, which is seeking a pay raise for pilots and other employees. The union, which staged a warning strike this month, is threatening further action if the issue is not resolved.

"Everything depends on that issue," said Mr. Weber. "Warning strikes or strikes could harm a good profit result." Still, he said there was a "very good" chance the airline would pay a dividend for 1996. *(Bloomberg, AFX)*

De Benedetti Admits Mistakes at Olivetti

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ROME — Carlo De Benedetti, the former chairman and largest shareholder of Olivetti SpA, said Thursday he took responsibility for both "immense successes and immense missed opportunities" at the office-products and computer maker but said its future was in the hands of its current management.

Mr. De Benedetti, speaking to a parliamentary committee on industrial activity, said "my role is that of shareholder, and I am no longer the controlling shareholder."

The financier, who still controls a 15 percent stake in Olivetti through Compagnie Industriali Riunite SpA, resigned in September as chairman of the company he took over in 1979 after it reported a greater-than-expected first-half loss of 440 billion lire ($290.6 million).

He said it "would have been better to create a capital and management structure independent of me" when his predecessor at the company died in the 1980s.

Speaking to members of the Parliament's industrial committee, Mr. De Benedetti said Italy's national industrial policy had to focus on improving technology and innovation.

"Any action with which Europe commits itself to the spread of new technologies not only will be of advantage to the information technology industry but is a requirement for modernizing the productive and administrative system and re-establishing European competitiveness," he said. Mr. De Benedetti, in a half-hour speech recounting the history of the company, said one of the largest missed opportunities for the company was a decision not to acquire the Finsiel software division controlled by Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale, the government's industrial holding company.

The Italian government is now considering ways of selling all or part of its stake in Finsiel as part of an asset-sale program that will include the sale of Stet SpA, the telecommunications holding company.

Mr. De Benedetti's testimony was his first public appearance since his resignation and a management restructuring at Olivetti. Italy's industry minister Pierluigi Bersani, as well as Olivetti's chief executive, Roberto Colaninno, and its chairman, Antonio Tesone, also have spoken before the committee this week.

Mr. Bersani said Thursday he doubted that Olivetti would be able to overcome its financial problems even if it managed to sell its personal-computer unit.

On Wednesday, Mr. Colaninno warned that a formal parliamentary inquiry into Olivetti's financial troubles would cause the company to lose all its clients.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

■ Computer Division Sale

Olivetti signed a letter of intent to sell its personal-computer division to Centenary Co. of the United States, according to an article in the weekly magazine Panorama that goes on sale Friday, AFX News reported from Milan.

Auto Sales And Exports Help French Economy

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — France's gross domestic product expanded 0.9 percent in the third quarter as consumer spending and exports were strong, the national statistics institute said Thursday in a preliminary report.

The institute, INSEE, also said GDP fell 0.2 percent in the second quarter, revising its earlier estimate of a 0.4 percent contraction.

Third-quarter GDP growth last year was 1.4 percent.

Economists had expected GDP to grow between 0.8 percent and 1.3 percent in the latest quarter.

"The figures come as no great surprise, and while the headline figure was higher than what the market was expecting, there was a revision to the second-quarter figure," said Vincent Chaigneau, an economist at Societe Generale.

The rise in third-quarter growth was due in part to a calendar effect, with more working days than in the second quarter. That alone accounted for a 0.25 percent rise in GDP, INSEE said.

The government said the report confirmed its forecast for 1.3 percent growth for all of 1996. Meanwhile, economists said it confirmed their view the economy was picking up.

Household consumption rose 1.0 percent in the third quarter from the second quarter. Car sales rose 13.6 percent, helped by a government incentive that expired Sept. 30. The pick-up in consumption followed a 0.9 percent decline in the second quarter.

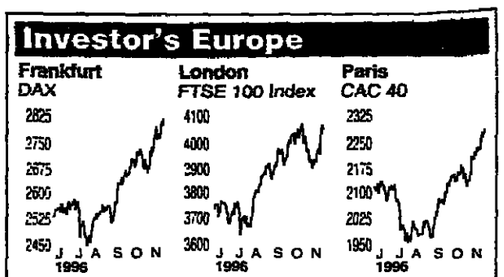
"There was a rush to beat the expiry of car incentives," said Julian Jessop, an economist at Nikko Europe. "There were also impressive-looking rises in investment and exports, but both were flattered by weakness in previous quarters. The bounce in exports is more likely to be genuine."

Exports of goods and services rose 3.1 percent while imports were up 2.1 percent, the agency said.

A separate report released Thursday showed that new housing starts fell at an annual rate of 7.6 percent in October, compared with a drop of 8.2 percent in September.

(Bloomberg, AFP)

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	624.23	618.40	+0.94
Brussels	Stock Exchange	10,359.74	10,329.64	+0.29
Frankfurt	DAX	2,817.49	2,797.03	+0.73
Copenhagen	Stock Market	455.32	454.96	+0.08
Helsinki	HEX General	2,382.67	2,369.80	+0.54
Oslo	OBX	505.40	502.83	+0.51
London	FTSE 100	4,050.20	4,049.20	+0.02
Madrid	Stock Exchange	400.31	395.96	+1.10
Milan	MIBTEL	10,391.00	10,294.00	+0.94
Paris	CAC 40	2,290.31	2,270.77	+0.86
Stockholm	SX 16	2,405.29	2,356.43	+2.07
Vienna	ATX	1,104.70	1,105.65	-0.09
Zurich	SPI	2,481.05	2,460.78	+0.82

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **Fiat SpA** is considering raising its 37.86 percent stake in a Turkish carmaker, *Tofas Turk Otomobil Fabrikasi AS*, as part of its plan to build a "world car" in Turkey.

• **The Netherlands'** gross domestic product rose 3 percent in the third quarter from a year earlier, according to preliminary data released by the Central Bureau for Statistics.

• **3i Group PLC**, Europe's largest venture-capital company, said the net value of its portfolio rose 6.5 percent in its first half, to 454 pence ($7.59) a share, lifted by growth in Britain and Europe.

• **Fortis**, a Belgian-Dutch financial-services company, said nine-month net profit rose 18 percent, to 554 million European currency units ($703.4 million).

• **British Gas PLC's** third-quarter net loss more than doubled to £364 million; it cited weaker gas prices in the commercial and industrial market and a charge for costly gas contracts.

• **Royal Bank of Scotland's** full-year pretax profit rose 15 percent, to £695 million, as growth in U.K. and U.S. banking operations offset lower revenue at its insurance unit.

• **Eurotunnel SA's** CFE-CGC union said a lengthy interruption of services would put 6,000 jobs at risk.

• **Lukoil**, Russia's oil giant, is completing a deal that would give it control over **Izvestia**, one of the largest national newspapers, according to officials close to the discussions.

• **Channel 5** in Britain, which is due to broadcast in March, has signed a film deal with **News Corp.'s** Twentieth Century-Fox International unit that will allow it to show television premieres of popular films.

• **Telefonica de Espana** signed an agreement with a group of Spanish television broadcasters and the Mexican television network **Televisa** to set up a joint venture for digital television broadcasting. *Bloomberg, AFP, AFX, Reuters, Bridge News*

Deutsche Telekom Flirts With Kirch on Cable

AFX News

BONN — Ron Sommer, chairman of Deutsche Telekom AG, said Thursday the company was holding "very solid" negotiations with Kirch Group on using Telekom's cable network for digital television purposes.

"We are looking for a sensible business solution on how the proceeds could be shared," Mr. Sommer said.

Kirch Group launched the only German digital television service, DF1, in July, and subscribers can receive it only by satellite.

Kirch planned to have 200,000 subscribers by the end of the year, but it currently only has around 20,000.

In addition to the negotiations being held with Kirch, Deutsche Telekom is holding talks with network and content providers, including the public-television channels ZDF and ARD, Mr. Sommer said.

He warned that Telekom's cable network, which is connected to around 16.2 million households, was "not a motorway that can be driven down for free." Telekom took write-offs totaling 950 million Deutsche marks ($622.2 million) in 1995.

Mr. Sommer also said the company was not interested in becoming a content provider.

He also said it was too early to tell how many retail investors had sold their Deutsche Telekom stock since the state-controlled company's shares went on the market Nov. 18.

"Naturally some shareholders have sold," he said. "But there should only have been a small percentage who would have wanted to get out quickly."

He said 300 million shares had changed hands since the company's stock listing.

OPEC Freezes Output 6 More Months, Despite Iraqi Deal

Reuters

VIENNA — OPEC oil ministers agreed Thursday to a new six-month freeze of their oil output quotas, a measure they hope will keep petroleum prices high despite the fact that Iraq is set to resume exports.

State Minister Lutfu Esengul of Turkey said Iraqi oil would begin flowing through a trans-Turkey pipeline by Dec. 15 under a United Nations deal that allows Baghdad to sell $2 billion of oil over six months to buy food and medicine.

At the close of a meeting in Vienna, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries announced an agreement to retain a production ceiling of 25.03 million barrels a day until the end of June.

Saudi Arabia's agreement to retain a production limit of 8.0 million barrels a day was crucial because the country has additional capacity of 2.0 million barrels per day.

There was some concern at the OPEC meeting that quota violations had already lifted actual OPEC output by almost 1 million barrels per day.

Venezuela has been accused of exceeding its limit by as much oil per day as Iraq is likely to sell. Caracas denies being over its quota.

Baghdad has not been allowed to sell oil since it invaded Kuwait in 1990. It agreed Monday to the UN plan that would let it sell $2 billion worth to buy food and medicine.

OPEC is enjoying strong oil prices, partly because of delays in getting Iraq to comply with the UN's conditions. Oil companies have also been scurrying to replenish depleted stocks of winter heating fuel while North America and Europe have had a cold autumn.

A barrel of oil is priced at between $22.00 and $23.00, compared with about $18.00 when OPEC last met in June.

Iraq has said that only minor technicalities needed to be ironed out before it could export 700,000 to 800,000 barrels a day, using up in full its OPEC quota allocation.

A Russian investment company offers assistance in a profitable purchase of large packages of RAO GAZPROM's shares. We guarantee promptness in effecting the deal. We can be contacted through the following channels: **(095) 928-95-87, 925-91-03, 924-06-05.**

e-mail:prema@glasnet.ru

LIVING IN THE U.S.?

Now printed in New York for same day delivery in key cities.

To subscribe, call 1-800-882 2884 (in New York, call 212-752-3890)

International Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

In this Saturday's

MONEY

Privatizations

Valuing FranceTelecom/ Deutsche Telecom

International Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

MERRILL LYNCH EQUITY/ CONVERTIBLE SERIES

Société d'Investissement Capital Variable
Registered Office: 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg
RC Luxembourg B 26.272

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders of Merrill Lynch Equity/Convertible Series (the "Company") are informed of the following changes decided by the Board of Directors of the Company:

1. Effective January 1, 1997 current dollar denominated Class A Shares at such date of the Portfolios designated below (the "Effected Portfolios") will be redesignated Class O Shares and, from such date the Effected Portfolios will issue a new class of Shares, to be called Class A Shares (hereafter "New Shares").

Effected Portfolio
Basic Value Portfolio
Convertible Securities Portfolios
Euro Equity Portfolio
Dragon Portfolio
Global Allocation Portfolio
Global Equity Portfolio
Latin America Portfolio
World Natural Resources Portfolio

2. The New A Shares and the Class A-DM Shares and the Class A-£ Shares of the Pacific Equity Portfolio and of the Technology Portfolio will be subject to a distribution fee at the annual rate of 0.50% of the average daily net assets of the New A Shares. Such distribution fee will be accrued daily and paid monthly to the Distributor. Class O Shares of Dragon Portfolio, Global Allocation Portfolio and Latin America Portfolio and Class A-DM Shares and Class A-£ Shares of the Latin America Portfolio and the Dragon Portfolio will continue to be subject to a shareholder servicing fee at the annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class O Shares of each such Portfolio. The remainder of the Class O Shares of the Class O Portfolios will continue not to have a shareholder servicing fee or distribution fee.

3. As of January 1, 1997, Class O Shares will be issued at a price equal to their Net Asset Value, without an initial sales charge or contingent deferred sales charge, only to existing holders of Class O Shares and only upon exchange or conversion of other Class O Shares or pursuant to reinvestment of dividends from Class O Shares. In the event a Class O shareholder desires to convert or exchange his Class O Shares into a Portfolio which does not have Class O Shares, such shareholder may convert or exchange, without charge, his Class O Shares into Class A Shares of another Portfolio on the basis of the relative net asset value of the respective shares. Any Class A Shares issued upon exchange or conversion from Class O Shares may not be exchanged or converted back into Class O Shares or any other Class of shares other than Class A Shares and only with payment of any relevant conversion or exchange fee. Exchanges or conversions from Class O Shares into any other Class of Shares other than Class O or Class A Shares of Portfolios without Class O Shares will not be permitted.

4. In summary, the only effect of this notice on those Shares other than those stated in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above of the Effected Portfolios which shall be redesignated class O Shares is that, upon their conversion or exchange after 31st December, 1996 into a Portfolio which does not issue class O Shares, the shareholder will obtain New Shares of such other Portfolio, which are subject to the relevant higher distribution fee described in item 2 above.

5. The German Paying Agent is, since 27th September, 1996 Merrill Lynch Capital Markets Bank Limited Zweigniederlassung Frankfurt am Main, in Mainzer Strasse 75, D-60331 Frankfurt am Main.

6. A revised prospectus dated December, 1995 amended as of December, 1996 will be available for inspection and a copy thereof may be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Company, 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg or from the Distributor and Paying Agents.

7. Until December 31, 1996 shareholders are entitled to redeem their U.S. dollar denominated Class A Shares of an Effected Portfolio without redemption charge and/or to exchange or convert, without exchange charge or conversion charge, such Shares into those of the same Class A (to be redesignated on 1st January, 1997 as class O) of Merrill Lynch Equity/Convertible Series or of Merrill Lynch Global Currency Bond Series, a Luxembourg UCITS with its registered office at 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg, on the basis of its revised prospectus to be dated December, 1995 as amended in December, 1996 available for inspection and a copy of which may be obtained free of charge from its Transfer Agent First European Transfer Agent S.A., of 283 route d'Arlon, L-1150 Luxembourg, to whom all conversion or exchange request should be sent on or before 30th December, 1996. German shareholders may also submit conversion or redemption requests to the German Paying Agent.

8. Shareholders are advised that, due to their decision in general meeting on 27th September, 1996 to change the Company's fiscal year to be from 1st September to 31st August in each year, the current year was extended to a 15 months' period from 1st June, 1996 to 31st August, 1997.

An unaudited semi-annual report shall be published in respect of the new semi-annual date ending on the last day of February in each year, starting in 1997 and will be made available within two months thereof.

Additional interim financial information in respect of the period from 1st June, 1996 to 30th November, 1996 shall be available and may be obtained free of charge from the Transfer Agent First European Transfer Agent S.A., 283 route d'Arlon, L-1150 Luxembourg or from the Distributor and/or Paying agents of the Company.

The Board of Directors

MERRILL LYNCH GLOBAL CURRENCY BOND SERIES

Société d'Investissement Capital Variable
Registered Office: 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg
RC Luxembourg B 29.815

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders of Merrill Lynch Global Currency Bond Series (the "Fund") are informed of the following changes decided by the Board of Directors of the Fund:

1. a. the denomination of the Merrill Lynch Global Currency Bond Series - U.S. Dollar Portfolio shall be as from 1st January, 1997: Merrill Lynch Global Currency Bond Series - Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio (hereafter referred to as the "Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio")

b. the investment objective of the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio shall be to seek a high level of current income by investing primarily in transferable U.S. corporate debt securities rated in the three highest rating categories of either S&P or Moody's or which are deemed to be of comparable quality by the Investment Adviser ("High Rated Corporate Debt Securities"). As a secondary objective, the Portfolio will seek capital appreciation when consistent with its primary objective.

c. the proposed investments of the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio include as follows: High Rated Corporate Debt Securities, including corporate bonds and transferable notes, convertible securities and preferred stocks.

The Portfolio may continue to hold transferable debt securities which were High Rated Corporate Debt Securities at the time of investment, but which were downgraded or declined in quality after purchase.

The Portfolio may also hold other transferable fixed income securities deemed by the Investment Adviser to be consistent with the investment objective of the Portfolio.

Under unusual market or economic conditions, for temporary defensive or other purposes, the Portfolio may invest up to 100% of its assets in U.S. Government and government agency securities, in accordance with the terms and conditions of investment restriction I (c) (iii).

The Portfolio may at all times in respect of its ancillary liquid assets, hold certificates of deposits, banker's acceptance and other bank obligations, commercial paper, in each case with a remaining maturity of not in excess of 12 months or reduced to such duration by the use of appropriate financial instruments, and rated in the highest category by an established rating agency, or cash.

d. Class A Shares of the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio shall become subject to a shareholder servicing fee of 0.25% p.a. of their average daily net assets in dollars as from 1st January, 1997, payable to the Distributor.

2. In addition, the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio will issue a new class of Shares, Class P Shares, which will be offered to Chilean Pension Plans and such other classes of investors as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine. There is no distribution fee or sales charge paid by the investor for purchases of Class P Shares. The Investment Adviser may, however, pay distribution fees and other expenses related to the Class P Shares.

Except as described above and except for the change in the frequency of dividend declarations described below, all other rights, privileges, charges and fees of the Shares of the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio are the same as those that existed for the U.S. Dollar Portfolio.

3. From 1997 the dividend policy schedule is changed from annually to quarterly with respect to the Global Currency Portfolios, other than the U.S. Dollar Portfolio (to be, as described above, renamed Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio). The first such (interim) quarterly dividend will be declared by the Board of Directors in 1997 and published by notice to shareholders in the Luxemburger Wort and/or other leading newspapers. Effective January 1, 1997, the Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio intends to declare daily and distribute monthly dividends in the same manner as described in the current Prospectus under Dividend Policy for Adjustable Rate Securities Portfolio.

4. The German Paying Agent is, since 27th September, 1996 Merrill Lynch Capital Markets Bank Limited Zweigniederlassung Frankfurt am Main, in Mainzer Strasse 75, D-60331 Frankfurt am Main.

5. The prospectus dated December, 1995 as supplemented in December, 1996 will be available for inspection and a copy thereof may be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Fund, 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg or from the Distributor and Paying Agents.

6. Until December 31, 1996 shareholders are entitled to redeem their Shares of the Portfolio presently denominated "U.S. Dollar Portfolio" and to be renamed "Corporate Investment Grade Portfolio" without redemption charge or contingent deferred sale charge and/or to exchange or convert such Shares without exchange or conversion charge, into those of the same Class A or B expressed in the same currency of Merrill Lynch Global Currency Bond Series or of Merrill Lynch Equity/Convertible Series, a Luxembourg UCITS with its registered office at 69 route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg, on the basis of its revised prospectus dated April, 1996 as supplemented and amended on July 10, 1996 and in December, 1996 available for inspection and a copy of which may be obtained free of charge from its Transfer Agent First European Transfer Agent S.A., of 283 route d'Arlon, L-1150 Luxembourg, to whom all conversion or exchange request should be sent on or before 30th December, 1996. German shareholders may also submit conversion or redemption requests to the German Paying Agent.

The Board of Directors

هكذا من الاصل

Scandals at Home Snarl Japan at WTO

Trade Minister's Role Is Scaled Down

Reuters

TOKYO — Japan's hope to be a major player at a global trade forum in Singapore next month could be frustrated if, as appears possible, its trade chief pulls out of the meeting because of a domestic scandal.

A Trade Ministry spokesman said Thursday that Trade Minister Shinji Sato would be likely to make at most a brief appearance at a gathering of ministers from the World Trade Organization being held in Singapore Dec. 9 through 13 because of the pressures of parliamentary business.

Mr. Sato is expected to face harsh questioning from the opposition in Parliament about a scandal linking officials from his ministry to an oil dealer arrested this month for suspected tax evasion.

"The minister's schedule has not been decided, but if he goes, it might be only briefly, and he might not be able to go at all," the Trade Ministry spokesman said.

Mr. Sato, who joined Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's cabinet this month, said Tuesday he had begun an investigation into possible corruption at the ministry.

The affair is the latest in a series of scandals involving Japanese bureaucrats that in the past week have toppled a deputy health minister and a provincial governor. The scandals have put a harsh spotlight on Japan's elite bureaucrats, once regarded as the architects of the nation's economic success.

Junichi Izui, a millionaire oil wholesaler who was arrested on charges of evading 310 million yen ($2.7 million) in taxes, has boasted of close ties to politicians and bureaucrats. He also donated millions of yen to high-ranking politicians across the political spectrum, including key members of Mr. Hashimoto's new cabinet. The investigation of Mr. Izui is focusing on the hefty commissions he received for oil transactions involving Mitsubishi Oil Co. and Mitsui Mining Co.

Japan's foreign minister, Yukihiko Ikeda, is also likely to cut his WTO appearance short because of parliamentary business, although no scandal has surfaced at his ministry, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Japanese trade officials now seem disappointed at but resigned to Tokyo's potentially low profile in Singapore.

"Of course the meeting is very important, but for politicians, Parliament has to take precedence," said one official.

Japan has often called the WTO its preferred forum for settling disputes with trade partners, including the United States, instead of dealing with differences in bilateral talks, often under the threat of trade sanctions.

WTO envoys in Geneva, meanwhile, have been battling to resolve strong differences over the text of a declaration to be issued by the ministers in Singapore. Key developing countries are opposed to any discussion, especially at the Singapore meeting, linking trade and investment to issues such as competition and labor standards. The United States, the European Union, Japan and Canada, meanwhile, are not yet in agreement on which of those issues should be on the agenda.

Pretoria-Taipei Split Widens

Reuters

TAIPEI — Taiwan said Thursday it would no longer encourage investment in South Africa, which plans to switch its diplomatic relationship to Beijing from Taipei next year.

The announcement threw doubt on plans by Tuntex Distinct Corp. of Taiwan to build a $3 billion petrochemical complex in South Africa.

South Africa, which had been the largest of a shrinking group of allies of Taiwan, announced its switch Wednesday, when President Nelson Mandela said it would sever diplomatic relations with Taiwan and establish full relations with Beijing.

Chiang Ping-kun, chairman of Taiwan's Council for Economic Planning and Development, said that "without government encouragement, it will be hard" for private investment from Taiwan to proceed in South Africa.

Tuntex, one of Taiwan's larger companies, said earlier Thursday it would respect the government's wishes in deciding whether to continue its project. But the state utility Taiwan Power Co. said Pretoria's decision would not affect its coal and uranium purchases from South Africa, which is the largest of the 30 countries that continue to recognize Taiwan rather than the People's Republic of China. Nearly 300 Taiwan businesses have operations in South Africa, with investments totaling more than $1.5 billion.

Foreign Minister John Chang said Taipei would review its economic projects in South Africa over the next 12 months.

But Stan Shih, chairman of the Taiwan computer maker Acer Inc., said any impact from the move would not be "particularly big."

He said Taiwan continued to have investments and businesses in the United States and other countries with which it has no official diplomatic ties.

Chen Han-chung, an analyst with Yungli Securities, said of the South African move, "Many investors knew it was coming, and they felt it would not have a significant effect on the economy."

Taipei's stock market benchmark, the weighted index, fell 56.55 points, to 6,876.41.

Beijing has regarded Taiwan as a renegade province since the Communists won the Chinese civil war and their Nationalist opponents fled to Taiwan in 1949.

South Africa Sees a Beijing Boom

Bloomberg Business News

BEIJING — The planned resumption of diplomatic relations between South Africa and China will increase bilateral trade, which is already expected to expand by as much as 20 percent this year, Pretoria's representative to Beijing said Thursday.

According to Chinese trade figures, two-way trade with South Africa was worth $1.32 billion last year, with South Africa showing a small surplus in the trade balance. In 1990, trade between the two countries totaled just $14 million.

"Obviously this will give a boost to trade," said Leslie Labuschagne, director of the South African Center in Beijing, which has acted as a diplomatic office between the two countries since 1992. "I'd expect trade to grow another 15 percent to 20 percent this year," he said.

In the past 18 months, Chinese companies have increased their investment in South Africa, and about 20 projects have been approved, Mr. Labuschagne said.

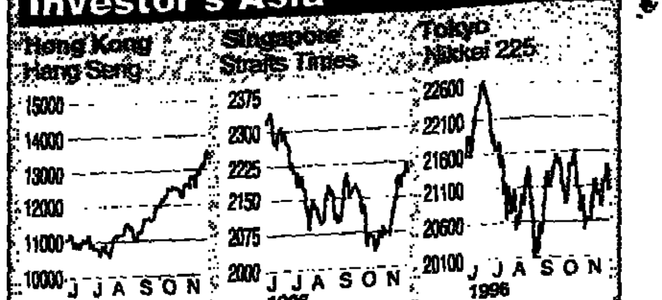
The largest of those was a $50 million chrome smelter, he said, and most of the others were considerably smaller, valued at around $5 million.

South Africa's largest investments in China are two brewery projects in Shenyang and Dalian totaling $20 million, he said. But South African companies are interested in investing in China's mining industry, which is still closed to most foreign companies, he said.

Mr. Labuschagne said that, when goods shipped via Hong Kong are included, its trade flows with China have been larger than those with Taiwan for three years.

China's main exports to South Africa are light industrial goods such as textiles, while South Africa's exports include iron ore, gold, manganese, chemicals, leather and agricultural products.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	13,310.76	13,530.95	-1.63
Singapore	Straits Times	2,199.47	2,220.36	-0.93
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,386.30	2,376.70	+0.40
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	21,035.54	21,345.28	-1.45
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,221.10	1,234.17	-0.25
Bangkok	SET	938.42	959.23	-2.17
Seoul	Composite Index	736.92	722.62	+1.98
Taipei	Stock Market Index	6,876.41	6,932.96	-0.82
Manila	PSE	3,063.74	3,065.65	-0.06
Jakarta	Composite Index	611.50	620.27	-1.41
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,346.35	2,356.83	-0.44
Bombay	Sensitive Index	2,871.02	2,883.57	-0.44

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **China** will officially make the yuan convertible on the current account Sunday, in keeping with a pledge it made to the International Monetary Fund. Convertibility on the current account is trade-related and covers payment for goods and services as well as repatriation of profits. In practice, the yuan has been convertible on the current account for several months; analysts said full convertibility, or the ability to exchange investment funds between yuan and other currencies, was still a few years away.

• **Qilu Petrochemical Corp.**, based in Zibo in China's Shandong province, plans to merge with **Zibo Chemical Fiber General Plant** and the **Zibo Petrochemical Works**. It would be China's biggest industrial merger on record.

• **Japan's** industrial output rose 3.5 percent in October from September to reach a four-year high as sales of new cars and telecommunications equipment soared. But the Ministry of International Trade and Industry predicted output would fall 1.7 percent in November and 0.2 percent in December.

• **The Bank of Thailand** forecast zero growth in Thai exports for the full year after figures showed exports rose just 0.9 percent in the first nine months, to 1.03 trillion baht ($40.45 billion). Thailand had a trade deficit in the first nine months of 334.20 billion baht, a 27 percent increase from a year earlier.

• **Sony Corp., Sega Enterprises Ltd.** and **Koei Co.** are taking 40 Hong Kong retailers and distributors to court over alleged software piracy. A lawyer representing the companies said 90 percent of the software sold in Hong Kong was counterfeit.

• **Standard & Poor's Asia Ltd.** affirmed its A-1 credit rating on **Sumitomo Corp.**, which was hit this year by huge losses from allegedly unauthorized copper trading.

• **First Pacific Co.**, the Hong Kong company controlled by Indonesia's **PT Salim Group**, bought 35 percent of **PT Metro Selular Nusantara** for $147.7 million, gaining access to Indonesia's virtually untapped mobile-phone market.

AFP, AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Seoul's Growth Slips to 6.4%

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — South Korea posted its weakest quarterly growth figures in three years Thursday, and economists said falling export prices and sluggish investment would keep the economy in low gear until next year.

The central bank said gross domestic product grew at a real, or inflation-adjusted, annual rate of 6.4 percent in the third quarter, compared with a 9.8 percent rise in the third quarter of last year. Third-quarter exports rose 9.4 percent, off sharply from 28.3 percent in the comparable period last year.

Korea's benchmark stock index, meanwhile, rose 1.98 percent, to 736.92 points, amid speculation that the government would ask the state-controlled Korea Pension Fund to buy 800 billion won ($963 million) of stocks to try to lift prices. Korean stocks have been battered as slumping exports slashed corporate profits. *(Reuters, Bloomberg)*

Malaysia Aims at a $100 Billion Target

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia announced an ambitious 10-year industrial plan Thursday that called for about $100 billion in investment to fuel its manufacturing sector.

Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad said the plan sought "to transform Malaysia into the production hub for Asia-Pacific and beyond."

The country aims to achieve average annual growth rates of 10.7 percent in manufacturing output from now until the year 2000 and 8.3 percent in 2001-2005. Mr. Mahathir also said a shift toward high-technology industries would reduce the country's reliance on foreign workers in grappling with an acute labor shortage.

Malaysia's economy has been growing at more than 8 percent a year since 1987. It grew 9.5 percent last year, but the expansion has slowed slightly this year.

The central bank said Thursday that gross domestic product expanded at an annual rate of 8.0 percent in the third quarter, compared with 9.3 percent in the third quarter of last year and 8.4 percent in the second quarter of this year.

The slowdown largely reflected a drop in exports as world demand for electronic products and semiconductors fell, the central bank said.

Output in the clothing, textile, agriculture and mining industries also declined in the third quarter, but construction and services showed an increase in output. *(Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg)*

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, Nov. 28
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam — EOE Index: 624.23 Previous: 618.40

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	110.30	107.30	110.20	108.30
Aegon	97	93.80	95.50	94.50
Ahold	108	100.80	107.80	102.90
Akzo Nobel	228.80	222.30	228	223.20
Boon Co.	61.70	61.10	61.40	61.60
Bols Wess cva	31.60	31.20	31.60	31.30
CSM cva	93.50	92.70	93.50	93.60
Dordtsche Pet	305.50	302	304	306
DSM	165.80	161.90	165.60	162.30
Elsevier	29.40	29.10	29.20	29.30
Fortis Amev	57	54.80	56.50	55.10
Getronics	46.20	44.50	45.80	44.90
G-Broc cva	53.50	52.80	52.80	53.10
Hagemeyer	136.90	133.80	135.90	134.90
Heineken	310	307.50	307.90	309.50
Hoogovens cva	65	63.70	64.60	64.30
Hunt Douglas	112.90	110.50	112	111
ING Group	59.70	58.10	59.60	58.70
KLM	44.90	43.50	44.90	43.40
KNP BT	38.10	36.30	37.90	36.50
KPN	64.70	63.40	64.50	63.90
Nedlloyd Gp	44	42.60	43.10	44.20
Nutricia	263	260	261.10	260.30
Oce Grinten	184	180.30	183.50	182
Philips Elec	69	67.40	68.60	67.60
Polygram	84.40	81.60	82	83.50
Randstad Hdg	130	124	128.80	124.50
Robeco	141	140	140.50	140.60
Rodamco	47	46.90	47	47.10
Rolinco	146.20	146.20	146.20	146.30
Rorento	105.20	105	105	104.70
Royal Dutch	286.90	283.60	285.50	287.40
Unilever cva	295.80	292.40	293.60	295.10
Vendex Intl	74.90	72.10	74.70	72.80
VNU	35.30	34.30	35.10	34.60
Wolters Kl cva	226.50	222	225.50	223

Bangkok — SET Index: 938.42 Previous: 959.23

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	302	296	300	302
Bangkok Bk F	308	282	282	308
Krung Thai Bk	77.50	74	74.50	76.50
PTT Explor	374	368	368	376
Siam Cement F	904	896	900	904
Telecomasia	55.50	53	54	55.50
Thai Airways	46.50	45	45	46.25
Thai Farm Bk F	204	204	204	204
Thai Teleph	45	42.75	43	45
Utd Comm	206	202	204	208

Bombay — Sensex 30 Index: 2871.02 Previous: 2883.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	1054.50	1005.25	1010	1017.50
Grasim Ind	379	373.50	374.75	376.50
Hindalco Ind	576	571	575.75	569.25
Indus Lever	788	775	786	777.75
Indian Hotels	649.75	640	648	643
ITC	279	274.75	277	274
Larsen Toubro	213.50	210	211.75	211.25
Reliance Ind	184	179.50	180.75	181.25
Tata Eng Loco	324.50	314.50	318.50	319.25
Tata Iron St	158	152.50	154	153.50

Brussels — Stock Exchange Index: 10359.74 Previous: 10329.64

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3550	3525	3550	3560
Barco Ind	5430	5360	5360	5420
BBL	4670	4590	4670	4600
Bekaert	26250	26025	26150	26275
CBR	2765	2745	2760	2745
CMB	2410	2380	2410	2380
Cockerill	127	125	126	125
Colruyt	14125	14050	14050	14050
Delhaize Lion	1870	1860	1870	1860
Electrabel	7250	7230	7240	7230
Electrafina	2915	2900	2915	2905
Fortis AG	4930	4840	4920	4840
GIB	1420	1402	1420	1404
GBL	3990	3960	3990	3990
Gen Banque	11225	11150	11200	11150
Glaverbel	3730	3700	3700	3700
Kredietbank	10375	10275	10350	10250
Mosane	2450	2400	2450	2450
Petrofina	9930	9890	9910	9920
Powerfin	4895	4800	4895	4885
Recticel	320	314	320	317
Royale Belge	6510	6450	6470	6460
Soc Gen Belg	2405	2380	2400	2395
Solvay	19625	19300	19525	19425
Tessenderlo	13100	12750	13100	12800
Tractebel	14700	14600	14650	14675
UCB	79350	78050	79200	79050
Union Miniere	2150	2110	2130	2120

Copenhagen — Stock Index: 455.32 Previous: 454.96

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	379	372	379	376
Danisco	337.50	328	332	332
Den Danske Bk	444	439	443.50	442
D/S Svendbrg B	214214	213500	213500	213000
D/S 1912 A	146500	146000	146000	146000
East Asiatic Co	113	110	111	112
FLS Ind B	741	734	737	735
ISS Intl Svc B	162	160	162	161
Nvo Nordisk B	1075	1060	1075	1080
Radiometer B	380	370	370	375
Sophus Ber B	744	738	739	740.50
Tele Danmk B	292	289	292	291
Unidanmark A	292.20	287	292	289

Frankfurt — DAX: 2817.49 Previous: 2797.03

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	1025	1025	1020	1020
Allianz Hdg	2763	2751	2756	2748
Altana	1244	1216	1225.50	1208
Bodenwerk	575.10	575.10	575	575
BASF	55.98	55.05	55.91	54.45
Bayer Hypo Bk	47.85	47.40	47.85	47.37
Bay.Vereinsbank	64.60	64.45	64.50	64.50
Bayer	60.73	60.15	60.60	59.85
Berliner Kraft	427	421	421	420
BHF Bank	37.10	36.75	36.80	36.52
BMW	998	980	991.50	976
CKAG Colonia	119	118	118	119.80
Commerzbank	37.04	36.98	37	37.08
Daimler Benz	99.74	98.85	99.70	98.65
Degussa	631.50	623	625	625.50
Deutsche Bank	72.13	71.95	72.08	72.13
Deut Telekom	33.20	32.90	33.20	33.08
Dresdner Bank	45.60	45.50	45.53	45.55
Heidelbg Zmt	110	109.15	109.25	109.10
Henkel	77	74.70	76.70	74.75
Hochtief	58.50	57.60	58.20	58.30
Hoechst	66.10	65.70	66.05	65.35
Holzmann Ph.	372	360	370	359
Karstadt	531.50	526	526.50	531
Linde	933	925	925	929
Lufthansa ord	20	19.81	19.87	19.75
MAN	373	366	367.50	370
Mannesmann	634	632	634	633
Metro	127.50	126.50	126.80	127
Muench Rueck	3688	3675	3683	3680
Preussag	368	358	359	366
PWA	206	200	200	207
RWE	68.70	68.10	68.35	68.10
SAP pfd	218.50	208	208.70	207.50
Schering	123.50	120.80	123.50	120.50
Schmalb Lub	339	334	334	339.50
Siemens	73.45	72.90	73.25	72.08
Suedzucker	715	708	715	705
Thyssen	272.50	271	271.80	271.50
Veba	90.30	89.55	90	89.08
VEW	484	475	480	470
Viag	580	577.50	577.50	582
Volkswagen	616	608	613	601.25
Wella	845	831	842	827

Helsinki — HEX General Index: 2382.67 Previous: 2369.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor 1	220	220	220	220
Enso R	35	34.70	34.80	34.80
Huhtamaki IF	200.50	198.50	200.50	198.50
Kesko	62	61.50	61.50	61.70
Kone BF	460	457	457	457
Merita A	14.60	14.50	14.50	14.40
Metra BF	243.30	240	243	240
Metsa-Serla B	30	29.70	29.70	29.90
Nokia Prf F	259	255	257	253
Outokumpu A	77.50	77	77.50	77.10
Rautaruukki	42	39.60	42	41.70
Stockmann A	274	270	274	270
UPM-Kymme	89.50	88.80	88.90	89.50
Valmet A	76	75.50	76	75.50

Hong Kong — Hang Seng: 13310.80 Previous: 13531.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	11.50	10.80	10.90	11.20
Bk East Asia	34.10	33.20	33.30	33.70
Cathay Pacific	13.50	12.70	12.85	12.95
Cheung Kong	72	68.25	68.75	69.50
China Light	34.50	32.70	32.90	33.30
Chu Estates	9.05	8.80	8.95	8.95
Citic Pacific	42.50	39.70	39.80	41
Cons Elec Pwr	18.25	18.15	18.20	18.20
Dao Heng Bk	38.10	37.10	37.30	38.10
First Pacific	11.20	10.75	10.80	10.90
Great Eagle	33.30	31.60	31.80	32.10
Guangdong Inv	6.80	6.40	6.50	6.65
Guoco Group	43.30	41.40	41.70	43.30
Hang Lung	18	17.25	17.30	17.40
Hang Seng Bk	95.50	92	92.50	95.25
Henderson Inv	10	9.35	9.45	9.60
Henderson Ld	82	77.75	78	79.50
HKR Intl	12	11.55	11.60	11.80
HK Aircraft	22.80	22.50	22.50	22.70
HK China Gas	16	15.40	15.40	15.55
HK Electric	26.50	24.60	24.65	25.10
HK Shang Htls	16	15	15	15.10
HK Telecomm	13.65	13.15	13.25	13.25
Hopewell Hdgs	5.35	5.05	5.10	5.20
HSBC Hdgs	168.50	160	161	163.50
Hutchison Wh	61.50	57.75	58	59.50
Hyson Dev	31	29.50	29.65	30.10
Johnson El 500	19.30	18.70	19.20	18.70
Miramar Hotel	15.30	14.85	15.10	15.20
Natl Mutual	7.25	7.15	7.15	7.25
New World	52	50	50.25	51.50
Oriental Press	5	4.38	4.45	4.38
Shangri-La	12.70	12	12.40	12
SHK Props	101.50	96.25	97	98
Shun Tak Hdgs	6	5.35	5.40	5.50
Sino Land Co.	10.10	9.75	9.80	10
Sth China Post	7.45	7.05	7.05	7
Swire Pac A	77	72	72.50	75
Tsim Sha Tsui	14	13.80	14	14
TV Broadcasts	30.30	29.50	30	28.65
Wharf Hdgs	42	38.70	39.20	40.90
Wheelock	23.50	22.05	22.20	22.50

Jakarta — Composite Index: 611.50 Previous: 620.27

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	5600	5400	5425	5500
Barito Pacific	1550	1500	1500	1550
Gudang Garm	10150	9925	9925	10200
Indah Kiat	1725	1700	1700	1700
Indocement	3775	3775	3775	3850
Indofood	5075	4950	4950	5025
Indorayon	1875	1875	1875	1900
Indosat	6750	6500	6550	6800
Kalbe Farma	2775	2750	2750	2775
Sampoerna HM	12250	11900	11975	12250

Johannesburg — All Market: 6714.05 Previous: 6749.43

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	262.25	258.50	258.50	258
AngloAm Gold	384	378	380	388
AngloAm Ind	170	169.50	170	170
Barlow	42.15	41.85	41.95	42.10
C.G. Smith	23.55	23.20	23.20	23.40
De Beers	140.50	138.75	139	139.25
Driefontein	52.50	52	52.50	53.40
Freegold	35.50	34.50	34.55	36
Fst Natl Bk	22	21.80	21.85	22.11
Gencor	16.75	16.15	16.60	16.66
GFSA	138	133	136.50	135
Iscor	3.42	3.38	3.38	3.40
Johnnies Ind	52.50	52	52.50	52.50
Kloof Gold	38	37	37.75	38.25
Liberty Life	118.25	117	117.25	117.75
Minorco	96.25	95.50	96.25	95.25
Nedcor	66.75	66.25	66.75	66.30
Rembrandt Gp	41.60	41.20	41.20	41.15
Richemont	69.50	67.75	68.25	68.80
Rust Platinum	65.50	65	65.50	65.50
SA Breweries	118	116	116.75	117.50
Sappi	40.50	39.50	40.10	40.40
Sasol	57.50	56.75	57.50	57.42
SBIC	174.75	174.50	174.75	173
Tiger Oats	65	64	64.50	65

Kuala Lumpur — Composite: 1221.10 Previous: 1234.17

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	18.60	18	18.10	18.50
Hicom Hldgs	7.45	7.20	7.35	7.25
Mal Banking	susp.	susp.	susp.	25
Mal Intl Ship F	8.30	7.90	8.10	7.90
Public Bank F	5.45	5.30	5.30	5.50
Resorts World	13.20	13	13.10	13.30
Sime Darby	9.50	9.40	9.45	9.40
Telekom Mal	23.30	23.20	23.30	23.40
Tenaga	11.50	11.40	11.50	11.50
Utd Engineers	23.40	22.90	23.30	23

London — FT-SE 100: 4050.20 Previous: 4049.20

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	6.89	6.83	6.84	6.87
Allied Domecq	4.47	4.36	4.46	4.41
Anglian Water	5.79	5.66	5.68	5.65
Arjo Wiggins	1.63	1.57	1.63	1.58
Asda Group	1.20	1.16	1.19	1.16
Assoc Br Foods	4.42	4.38	4.40	4.38
BAA	4.94	4.85	4.94	4.90
Barclays	11.06	10.01	10.12	10.10
Bass	7.96	7.86	7.92	8.04
BAT Ind	4.71	4.50	4.67	4.66
Bank Scotland	2.92	2.89	2.91	2.92
BICC	2.90	2.85	2.86	2.91
Blue Circle	3.67	3.63	3.66	3.65
BOC Group	9.03	8.85	8.87	8.98
Boots	6.28	6.18	6.28	6.24
Rexam	3.40	3.34	3.38	3.35
BPB Ind	3.52	3.39	3.44	3.50
Brit Aerosp	11.57	11.50	11.54	11.59
Brit Airways	5.92	5.84	5.85	5.91
Brit Gas	2.22	2.14	2.17	2.22
Brit Petm	6.89	6.82	6.89	6.92
Brit Steel	1.71	1.67	1.69	1.70
Brit Telecom	3.83	3.77	3.81	3.79
BTR	2.49	2.35	2.37	2.38
Burmah Cast	10.57	10.47	10.47	10.56
Cable Wireless	4.94	4.81	4.82	4.94
Cadbury Schw	5.20	5.10	5.11	5.18
Caradon	2.30	2.27	2.28	2.29
Carlton Comm	5.17	5.01	5.02	5.13
Coats Viyella	1.37	1.31	1.31	1.35
Comml Union	6.99	6.60	6.65	6.83
Courtaulds	3.99	3.91	3.96	3.92
De La Rue	5.80	5.73	5.78	5.75
EMI Group	13.97	13.65	13.66	13.70
Eng China Cl	1.81	1.77	1.78	1.79
Enterprise Oil	5.97	5.85	5.93	5.91
Fam Colonial	1.51	1.50	1.50	1.50
Genl Accident	7.44	7.36	7.38	7.50
GEC	3.80	3.75	3.78	3.77
GKN	11.20	11.05	11.17	11.25
Glaxo	10.13	9.98	9.90	10.09
Granada Gp	8.72	8.61	8.65	8.69
Grand Met	4.68	4.56	4.65	4.64
GRE	2.76	2.70	2.71	2.75
Guinness	4.70	4.49	4.51	4.52
GUS	6.68	6.60	6.68	6.71
Hanson	0.81	0.80	0.81	0.80
Hillsdown Hdg	1.79	1.76	1.77	1.78
HSBC Hldgs	12.50	12.45	12.49	12.65
ICI	7.85	7.77	7.77	7.83
Inchcape	2.67	2.56	2.61	2.55
Kingfisher	6.34	6.18	6.27	6.22
Ladbroke	2.08	2.06	2.07	2.06
Land Sec	7.31	7.26	7.28	7.29
Laporte	6.87	6.75	6.78	6.83
Lasmo	2.22	2.19	2.22	2.23
Legal Genl Grp	3.58	3.50	3.54	3.63
Lloyds Abbey	6.45	6.40	6.42	6.41
Lloyds TSB Gp	4.08	4.02	4.03	4.02
London Elec	6.49	6.21	6.32	6.42
LucasVarity	2.48	2.42	2.48	2.45
Marks Spencer	4.97	4.91	4.97	4.93
MEPC	4.44	4.40	4.42	4.40
Mercury Asset	12.43	12.21	12.21	12.41
Natl Power	4.63	4.58	4.62	4.58
NatWest	6.88	6.80	6.86	6.83
Utd Utilities	5.95	5.86	5.94	5.95
Nthern Foods	2.01	1.97	1.98	1.98
P&O	5.97	5.75	5.85	5.98
Pearson	7.43	7.33	7.37	7.33
Pilkington	1.54	1.51	1.51	1.56
PowerGen	5.78	5.72	5.75	5.73
Prudential	4.84	4.79	4.82	4.81
Rank Group	4.37	4.20	4.37	4.25
Reckitt Colm	7.14	7.08	7.08	7.13
Redland	3.72	3.60	3.70	3.66
Reed Intl	11.52	11.43	11.52	11.47
Rentokil	4.35	4.31	4.32	4.33
Reuters Hdgs	7.25	7.16	7.22	7.19
RMC Group	9.88	9.68	9.88	9.85
Rolls Royce	2.56	2.51	2.56	2.55
Royal Bk Scot	5.32	5.22	5.27	5.23
RTZ reg	9.90	9.69	9.84	9.70
Royal & Sun All	4.48	4.45	4.46	4.45
Safeway	3.90	3.82	3.86	3.85
Sainsbury	3.71	3.67	3.71	3.71
Schroders	14.90	14.70	14.90	14.65
Scot Newcastle	6.47	6.39	6.43	6.44
Scot Power	3.35	3.30	3.32	3.35
Sears	0.95	0.93	0.95	0.92
Severn Trent	6.57	6.50	6.56	6.58
Shell Trnp reg	9.90	9.77	9.85	9.93
Siebe	9.46	9.38	9.46	9.45
Smith Nephew	1.85	1.82	1.84	1.83
Smith (WH)	4.27	4.17	4.23	4.37
SmithKline	8.32	7.98	8.32	7.87
Smiths Ind	8.05	8	8.01	8.07
Sthern Elec	6.97	6.83	6.87	6.86
Stand Charter	6.94	6.82	6.83	6.87
Tate & Lyle	4.86	4.80	4.82	4.79
Tesco	3.37	3.32	3.37	3.34
Thames Water	5.79	5.71	5.72	5.73
3i Group	4.92	4.89	4.90	4.89
TI Group	5.65	5.56	5.60	5.73
Tomkins	2.52	2.46	2.49	2.45
Unilever	14.09	13.95	14.03	13.97
Utd Biscuits	2.18	2.06	2.12	2.05
Utd News	6.68	6.63	6.66	6.68
Vendome uts	5.37	5.30	5.37	5.35
Vodafone	2.52	2.47	2.52	2.48
Whitbread	7.55	7.45	7.54	7.47
Williams Hdgs	3.49	3.37	3.39	3.46
Wolseley	4.58	4.53	4.54	4.59
Zeneca	16.75	15.15	16.54	16.73

Madrid — Bolsa Index: 408.31 Previous: 395.96

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	16440	16000	16420	16100
ACESA	1560	1535	1550	1540
Argentaria	5050	4990	5040	5020
BBV	6550	6410	6520	6490
Banesto	837	828	834	830
Bankinter	16800	16250	16770	16300
Bco Centro Hisp	3240	3140	3230	3170
Bco Exterior	2890	2820	2830	2820
Bco Popular	25000	24510	24830	24690
Bco Santander	7030	6950	7000	6950
CEPSA	3835	3760	3835	3790
Corp Mapfre	6800	6520	6800	6550
Dragados	1790	1760	1775	1765
Endesa	8510	8270	8490	8280
FECSA	1055	1025	1055	1040
Fomento Const	11100	10900	10990	11080
Gas Natural	26000	25750	26000	25810
Hidroel Cantab	4350	4310	4335	4335
Iberdrola	1465	1440	1460	1445
Pryca	2710	2655	2660	2680
Repsol	4740	4600	4700	4615
Sevillana Elec	1230	1210	1230	1215
Tabacalera	5060	4805	5060	4865
Telefonica	2875	2830	2855	2840
Union Fenosa	935	917	933	922
Valenc Cement	1430	1410	1430	1430

Manila — PSE Index: 3063.74 Previous: 3065.65

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	22.25	21.75	22.25	22.25
Ayala Land	28.50	28	28	28
Manila Elec A	105	103	104	105
Metro Bank	605	595	605	600
Petron	8.40	8.10	8.30	8.10
Phil Long Dist	1565	1560	1565	1575
San Miguel A	49.50	47.50	49.50	48
San Miguel B	105	98	104	98.50
SM Prime Hdg	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.30

Mexico — Bolsa Index: 3273.09 Previous: 3268.84

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	35.15	35.10	35.10	35.15
Cemex B	28.80	28.40	28.75	28.80
Cifra C	10.88	10.76	10.80	10.76
Empresas ICA	111.50	110.50	111.50	110.60
Eme Moderna	36.75	36.70	36.75	36.70
Femsa	27.30	26.80	27.00	26.85
Gpo Carso A1	40.25	40.00	40.15	40.25
Televisa CPO	107.00	106.00	107.00	107.00
TelMex L	11.96	11.90	11.90	11.96
Tribasa	20.40	20.20	20.30	20.10

Milan — MIB Telematico: 10391.00 Previous: 10294.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	11175	10860	11100	10910
Bca Comm Ital	2740	2675	2710	2670
Bca Naz Agricol	990	990	990	1098
Bca Naz Lavoro	12250	11960	12250	12100
Bca di Roma	1368	1325	1358	1338
Bco Ambrosian	3365	3300	3350	3370
Benetton	18965	18100	18965	18520
Credito Italiano	1669	1605	1650	1615
ENI	7980	7860	7965	7885
Fiat	4460	4400	4425	4400
Fondiaria	5725	5550	5685	5575
Generali Assic	30350	29550	30250	29600
IFIL	4390	4240	4320	4280
Italcementi	8890	8745	8830	8820
Italgas	6190	6120	6190	6190
Mediobanca	8700	8540	8700	8745
Montedison	1060	1044	1057	1053
Olivetti	537	520	532	550
Pirelli	2770	2705	2760	2715
RAS	15075	14700	15000	14925
Rinascente	9075	8840	9075	8900
S Paolo Torino	9370	9100	9370	9180
Standa	16000	15000	15500	15550
Stet	6345	6215	6330	6280
Telecom Italia	3560	3470	3550	3535
Toro Assic	21000	20500	20800	20700

Montreal — Industrials Index: 2795.55 Previous: 2800.41

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alco I	23¾	23.65	23¾	23¾
Bank Montreal	44.60	43.95	44.40	44
Bce Mob Com	43½	43¼	43¼	43½
Can Tire A	22.85	22¾	22.85	22.90
Cdn Util A	32.10	31.90	32	31.95
Cascades	7¾	7.40	7¾	7.70
CT Finl Svc	34	33.60	34	34
Extendicare	18½	18	18	18
Gaz Metro	17.95	17.55	17.95	17.45
Gt-West Lifeco	42¼	41.55	42¼	41.60
Hees Intl Bcp	20.95	20.60	20.95	20.65
Hudsons Bay	23.10	22.90	22.90	23
Imasco	33.95	33.40	33¾	33½
Investors Grp	26	26	26	26
Loblaw Cos	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.30
Molson A	21.70	21.60	21.70	21.60
Natl Bk Canada	14.45	14.15	14.35	14.20
Oshawa A	20.85	20¼	20.80	20.65
Pancan Petm	52.30	52.20	52¼	52.15
Power Corp	26.60	26.45	26¾	26.45
Power Finl	50	50	50	50
Quebecor B	24½	24.40	24.40	24.40
Rogers Comm B	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.40
Royal Bk Cda	51.10	50	50.45	49.85
Sears Canada	10½	10.35	10.35	10.60
Shell Cda A	54	53.35	54	53.80
Southam	18.90	18¾	18.90	18.80
Stelco A	8.40	8.35	8.40	8.40
Trilon Finl A	7.05	7	7.05	7.05

Oslo — OBX Index: 585.40 Previous: 582.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	142	140	140	140
Bergesen Dy B	145	143	144.50	143.50
Christiania Bk	19.50	19.30	19.40	19.30
Den norske Bk	23.90	23.50	23.80	23.70
SAS Norge ASA	64	63	63	63.50
Dyno Indust	154	151	154	152
Elkem	101	98	98.50	98
Hafslund A	50	48	49	48
Kvaerner	260	251	260	252
Leif Hoegh	116	115	116	115
Norsk Hydro	321	317	319.50	318.50
Norske Skog A	187.50	187	187	186
Orkla	428	423	427	425
Rieber B	176	174	176	174
Saga Petrm B	96	94	96	95
Schibsted	115	113	114.50	115
Storebrand	38.50	37.70	38.40	38

Paris — CAC-40: 2298.31 Previous: 2270.77

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	670	658	660	666
AGF	170.20	168	170.20	167.40
Air Liquide	825	792	817	796
Alcatel Alsth	465.80	460.60	463.20	460.50
Axa	314	310.60	313	311.20
Bancaire	594	570	594	570
BNP	206.50	202.50	204	202.80
Bouygues	547	538	545	538
Canal Plus	1197	1176	1191	1198
Carrefour	3244	3178	3204	3182
CCF	248	245.60	245.60	245.60
Credit Local cl	474	466.20	473.50	473.60
Credit Lyon PC	137	135.30	136	136.50
Crown Cork Seal	271.80	271.60	271.80	270.70
Danone	764	756	761	757
Elf-Aquitaine	453.70	447.20	452.20	449
Eridania BS	832	815	823	827
Euro Disney	10.75	10.60	10.75	10.65
Eurotunnel uts	7.35	7.10	7.35	7.05
Gen. Eaux	645	640	643	637
Havas	366.80	349	366.30	343.90
Lafarge Cop	330	323.10	327	326.10
Legrand	936	913	922	910
L'Oreal	1882	1842	1868	1845
LVMH	1297	1260	1284	1270
Lyon. Eaux	492	485.70	491.90	486
Michelin B	265	261.20	264.50	262.80
Navig Mixte	760	760	760	760
Paribas A	362	356.20	357	359
Pechiney SA	205	201	205	203.50
Pernod Ricard	290.40	286.10	288.50	287.50
Peugeot Cit	638	624	635	624
Pinault-Print	2041	1996	2020	1995
Promodes	1484	1461	1468	1465
Renault	119.50	117.50	119.50	118.70
Rh-Poulenc A	165	162	164.70	162.40
Roussel-Uclaf	1367	1354	1367	1364
Sanofi	475	466.50	470.30	465
Schneider	254.50	250.60	252.60	249.80
Ste Generale	565	559	565	561
St Gobain	738	722	734	724
St Louis	1306	1288	1294	1288
Suez	226	223.80	225	224
Thomson CSF	167.80	165	167.60	167.60
Total B	426	420.50	422.90	422.60
UAP	139.10	137.50	138.90	138.50
Valeo	322.80	306.60	319	310.60

São Paulo — Bovespa Index: 66448.90 Previous: 65916.90

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bco Brasil Pfd	9.10	9.00	9.08	9.11
Banespa Pfd	6.00	4.75	4.80	4.80
Bradesco Pfd	7.65	7.58	7.60	7.60
Brahma Pfd	610.00	608.00	608.00	611.00
Cemig Pfd	33.20	32.30	33.00	32.30
CESP Pfd	34.00	32.70	33.10	33.00
Eletrobras B	340.00	338.00	340.00	337.50
Itaubanco Pfd	418.00	417.20	417.40	418.00
Light	316.00	316.00	316.00	327.00
Paranapan Pfd	9.60	9.40	9.430	9.40
Petrobras Pfd	140.990	138.00	140.00	139.50
Sid Nacional	27.30	26.80	27.30	27.40
Souza Cruz	5.95	5.90	5.90	5.95
Telebras Pfd	78.00	76.75	77.69	77.10
Telesp Pfd	187.00	186.50	186.51	186.50
Usiminas Pfd	1.04	1.03	1.04	1.04
CVRD Pfd	21.80	21.49	21.70	21.65

Seoul — Composite Index: 736.92 Previous: 722.62

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Daewoo Heavy	5900	5770	5900	5770
Hyundai Eng	23000	21800	23000	22000
Hyundai Motor	24700	23600	24500	23600
Korea El Pwr	26500	26000	26400	26000
Korea Mob Tel	460000	437000	455000	449500
LG Electronics	13000	12600	13000	12700
Pohang Iron St	42400	40200	41500	40500
Samsung Elec	64000	60200	62500	60300
Samsung Hvy	10400	10200	10300	10200
Yukong	19100	18600	19000	19000

Singapore — Straits Times: 2199.47 Previous: 2220.36

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	10.50	10.30	10.30	10.40
City Devlts	12.50	12.30	12.40	12.60
Cycle Carriage	15.80	15.60	15.60	15.80
Dairy Farm Int*	0.65	0.63	0.64	0.65
DBS	9.05	8.95	8.95	9
DBS Land	5.25	5.10	5.20	5.10
Fraser & Neave	15.20	14.80	14.90	15.30
HK Land*	2.88	2.82	2.86	2.83
Hong Leong Fin	3.32	3.32	3.32	3.30
Jard Mathesn*	6.80	6.70	6.80	6.80
Jard Strategic*	3.48	3.42	3.46	3.44
Keppel	11.30	11.10	11.20	11.30
Natsteel	3.02	2.94	2.96	3.02
Neptune Orient	1.24	1.21	1.21	1.22
OCBC foreign	17.40	17	17.10	17.50
OSea Union Bk	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.40
Sembawang	7.85	7.70	7.70	7.80
Sing Airlines F	13.20	13.10	13.10	13.30
Sing Petm	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	1.78
Sing Press F	27.50	27	27	27.20
ST Auto F	3.06	3.02	3.04	3.02
ST Ship	2.01	2	2.01	2
Sing Telecomm	3.32	3.28	3.32	3.30
Straits Steam	4.54	4.46	4.48	4.58
Utd Industrial	1.24	1.22	1.22	1.22
Utd OSea Bk F	15	14.50	14.60	14.90
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.96	3.90	3.94	3.96

*: in U.S. dollars.

Stockholm — SX 16 Index: 2485.29 Previous: 2356.43

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	102	100.50	102	100.50
ABB AF	764	748	764	746
AssiDoman F	171	166	170.50	166.50
Astra AF	322.50	316	321.50	314.50
Atlas Copco AF	155.50	152	153.50	155.50
Avesta F	69	67	69	67
Electrolux BF	390	385	390	388
Ericsson BF	203.50	199.50	203.50	199.50
Hennes BF	965	945	957	967
Incentive AF	441	433	439	438
Investor BF	274	268	273	268
Kinnevik BF	187.50	185.50	187	186.50
MoDo BF	180.50	171	180	172
Pharm/Upjohn	257	254	256	253
Sandvik BF	165	163	164.50	164
SCA BF	144	135.50	144	136.50
S-E Banken AF	61.50	60	61.50	60.50
Skandia Fors F	189	185.50	187	186.50
Skanska BF	295	289	290	295
SKF BF	142	138.50	142	139
SSAB BF	107	105.50	107	106.50
Stora AF	90	85	90	85
Sv Handles AF	185	181	184.50	182
Sydkraft AF	148	146	148	147
Trelleborg BF	88.50	83.50	87.50	83.50
Volvo BF	146	141	145	141.50

Sydney — All Ordinaries: 2386.30 Previous: 2376.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	7.54	7.52	7.56	7.54
ANZ Bkng	8.12	7.95	8.10	7.96
BHP	18.20	17.95	18.18	17.94
Boral	3.20	3.16	3.19	3.17
Brambles Ind.	21.52	21.25	21.50	21.60
Burns Philp	2.17	2.06	2.17	2.08
CBA	11.98	11.89	11.89	11.92
CC Amatil	13.80	13.20	13.70	13.15
Coles Myer	4.62	4.60	4.60	4.61
Comalco	6.60	6.50	6.55	6.60
CRA Ltd	20.48	20.10	20.42	20.15
CSR	4.01	4	4	4.01
Fosters Brew	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32
GIO Australia	3.51	3.42	3.45	3.50
Goodman Fld	1.59	1.56	1.59	1.57
ICI Australia	12.86	12.76	12.85	12.75
John Fairfax	2.72	2.69	2.72	2.72
Lend Lease	22.85	22.75	22.75	22.94
Mayne Nickless	8.81	7.92	8.01	7.95
MIM Hdgs	1.76	1.73	1.75	1.74
Nat Aust Bank	14.93	14.58	14.84	14.76
News Corp	6.60	6.53	6.55	6.61
North Ltd	3.65	3.58	3.64	3.66
Pacific Dunlop	2.81	2.77	2.78	2.82
Pioneer Intl	3.45	3.40	3.43	3.45
Placer Pacific	1.95	1.83	1.85	1.43
Santos	5.12	5	5.05	5.12
Southcorp	4.05	3.93	4.04	3.93
Wesfarmers	8.60	8.45	8.55	8.50
Wstrn Mining	7.91	7.81	7.81	7.85
Westfield Trt	2.50	2.45	2.49	2.46
Woodside Pet	8.80	8.68	8.70	8.78
Woolworths	3.06	2.98	3.06	2.98

Taipei — Stock Market Index: 6876.41 Previous: 6932.96

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	51	50	50	51
Cathay Life Ins	173	170	171	172
Chang Hwa Bk	157	153	155	154
China Steel	26.10	25.40	25.60	25.60
China Trust	55	53.50	54.50	55
Evergreen	57	54.50	56.50	56
Far East Text	28.50	28.10	28.20	28.70
First Bank	168	164	166	165
Formosa CF	41.70	40.70	40.80	41.90
Hua Nan Bk	129	124.50	127.50	125.50
Hualon Teijran	24	23.30	23.60	23.60
ICBC	95.50	93.50	95	95.50
President Ent	43.30	42.10	42.90	42.70
Taiwan Cemt	62.50	61.50	61.50	63
Tatung	57.50	56.50	56.50	57.50

Tokyo — Nikkei 225: 21035.54 Previous: 21345.28

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1290	1280	1280	1300
All Nippon Air	985	973	975	986
Asahi Bank	1120	1100	1120	1110
Asahi Chem	747	743	746	747
Asahi Glass	1190	1180	1180	1190
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	2340	2320	2340	2360
Bk Yokohama	841	836	839	842
Bridgestone	2140	2090	2090	2140
Canon	2540	2470	2470	2490
Chiba Bank	868	859	868	868
Chubu Elec	2330	2320	2320	2340
Chugoku Elec	2300	2290	2300	2290
Daiei	959	940	950	959
Daiichi Kang	1860	1840	1860	1850
Daiwa Bank	666	662	663	663
Daiwa House	1600	1580	1580	1600
Daiwa Sec	1250	1230	1250	1260
Denso	2740	2700	2700	2740
Fanuc	3720	3680	3700	3680
Fuji Bank	2020	2000	2000	2020
Fuji Photo	3620	3560	3560	3630
Fujitsu	1090	1070	1070	1090
Hitachi	1070	1050	1050	1070
Honda Motor	3440	3350	3360	3470
IBJ	2270	2240	2250	2260
IHI	535	530	532	541
Itochu	698	683	691	700
Ito-Yokado	5750	5660	5730	5740
JAL	680	667	667	684
Jusco	3730	3650	3680	3710
Kajima	922	908	915	915
Kansai Elec	2390	2380	2380	2390
Kao	1350	1320	1330	1360
Kawa Steel	361	358	360	365
KDD	7350	7150	7300	7380
Kinki Nipp Ry	750	745	746	751
Kirin Brewery	1160	1140	1160	1200
Kobe Steel	272	266	268	277
Komatsu	975	960	964	980
Kubota	649	644	644	654
Kyocera	7370	7310	7350	7350
Kyushu Elec	2400	2370	2390	2390
LTCB	723	721	723	725
Marubeni	517	511	514	523
Marui	2170	2150	2150	2180
Matsu Elec Ind	2010	1980	1980	1990
Matsu Elec Wk	1100	1070	1100	1090
Mitsubishi	1360	1320	1330	1370
Mitsubishi Ch	447	438	441	445
Mitsubishi El	677	661	666	683
Mitsubishi Est	1440	1420	1420	1450
Mitsubishi Hvy	949	932	935	932
Mitsubishi Mat	903	899	900	903
Mitsubishi Tr	1860	1820	1840	1860
Mitsui	977	970	970	973
Mitsui Fudosn	1390	1370	1370	1400
Mitsui Trust	1100	1070	1090	1120
Murata Mfg	3780	3780	3780	3800
NEC	1410	1390	1390	1410
Nikko Sec	1080	1060	1060	1080
Nintendo	8250	8070	8250	8130
Nipp Credit Bk	289	284	288	287
Nipp Express	869	854	867	865
Nippon Oil	656	644	649	648
Nippon Paper	633	623	623	633
Nippon Steel	350	343	345	353
Nippon Yusen	561	548	549	564
Nissan Motor	820	805	808	831
NKK	288	282	285	292
Nomura Sec	1960	1920	1920	1970
NTT	8210a	8060a	8110a	8280a
Obayashi	877	868	865	893
Odakyu El Ry	703	701	701	701
Ono Pharm	3650	3620	3650	3620
Osaka Gas	355	346	349	355
Ricoh	1250	1230	1230	1260
Sakura Bk	1050	1040	1040	1050
Sankyo	3030	3000	3010	3020
Sanwa Bank	1920	1900	1910	1940
Sanyo Elec	544	536	536	545
Secom	6880	6850	6850	6870
Seibu Rwy	5690	5650	5650	5700
Sekisui House	1240	1230	1240	1250
Seven-Eleven	6790	6730	6730	6750
Sharp	1830	1810	1810	1820
Shimizu	967	958	964	965
Shin-etsu Ch	2120	2080	2080	2120
Shizuoka Bk	1320	1280	1310	1310
Sony	7410	7330	7340	7380
Sumitomo	973	965	965	965
Sumitomo Bk	2000	1980	1990	2000
Sumit Chem	505	498	498	506
Sumitomo Elec	1640	1620	1630	1640
Sumit Metal	319	308	317	316
Sumit Trust	1280	1260	1260	1280
Taisei	658	642	642	671
Taisho Pharm	2580	2540	2560	2580
Takeda Chem	2200	2170	2180	2190
TDK	7480	7390	7390	7490
Tohoku El Pwr	2340	2310	2320	2350
Tokai Bank	1330	1310	1320	1330
Tokio Marine	1250	1240	1240	1260
Tokyo El Pwr	2580	2560	2560	2580
Tokyo Gas	338	333	333	337
Tokyu	770	760	760	772
Tonen	1530	1510	1510	1520
Toppan Print	1500	1470	1480	1510
Toray Ind	737	734	735	740
Toshiba	752	738	739	754
Toyo Seikan	3660	3600	3610	3620
Toyo Trust	1000	995	1000	1020
Toyota Motor	3180	3100	3120	3140
Yamaichi Sec	614	610	610	614
Yamanouchi	2330	2310	2310	2320
Yasuda Fire	732	720	722	742
Yasuda Trust	540	536	537	543

a: x 100

Toronto — TSE Industrials: 6018.65 Previous: 5984.41

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	20.10	19.90	20.10	20.20
Air Canada	6.20	6.10	6.15	6.20
Alberta Energy	31.90	31.20	31.40	32
Alcan Alum	47.85	47½	47.70	47.60
Avenor A	23.20	23	23	23
Bk Nova Scotia	47.20	46.20	46.85	46.05
Barrick Gold	41.20	39.30	41.20	39.65
BCE	68.95	67	68.20	67.05
BC Telecomm	30.60	30.20	30.60	30.30
Bombardier B	24.95	24.55	24.60	24.90
Brascan A	30¾	29.65	30.15	29.95
Cameco	58¼	58	58.20	58
CIBC	62.40	60.95	61.80	61.10
Cdn Airlines	2.40	2.20	2.30	2.15
Cdn Nat Res	37¾	37.05	37.85	37.70
Cdn Occid Pet	24.30	23.90	24.10	24.15
Cdn Pacific	36.95	36¼	36.70	36.80
Cominco	35	34.60	34.60	35.10
Consumers Gas	24.30	23.80	23.80	24
Dofasco	26.40	25.85	26.35	26.10
Domtar Ind B	9	9	9	9
Du Pont Cda A	34½	34½	34½	34
Echo Bay Min	8.45	8.20	8.40	8.35
Empire Co. A	12¾	12½	12¾	12¾
Falconbridge	30.65	30.15	30.60	30.35
Fletcher Chall A	20.90	20.70	20.90	20.90
Franco Nevada	56¼	55.40	56¼	57
Guardian Cap A	12	12	12	12
Imperial Oil	61.90	61¼	61¼	61.90
Inco	47.30	46.90	47.30	46.90
IPL Energy	39.70	39.40	39.45	39¾
Laidlaw A	16.40	16¼	16¼	16.45
Laidlaw B	16.45	16¼	16¼	16.40
Loewen Group	54½	54.35	54.35	54½
Ldn Insur Gp	37.40	36½	37¼	36¼
Macmill Bld	19.30	19.15	19¼	19.15
Magna Intl A	76¼	74.30	76¼	74
Maple Leaf Fds	9.30	9.20	9.30	9.30
Moore	28¾	28.30	28½	28.60
Newbridge Net	41.20	39¼	41	38.60
Noranda Inc	31.95	31.70	31.95	31.70
Noranda Forest	9.40	9.30	9.40	9.30
Norcen Energy	31.70	31¼	31¼	31.60
Nthern Telecom	88½	88.10	88.20	88.40
Nova	12.95	12.80	12.85	12.90
Onex	19.10	19	19.05	19
Placer Dome	32.90	32.15	32.45	32.90
Potash Sask	101.95	101	101.95	101.90
Provigo	5.90	5.85	5.90	5.90
Quebecor Print	24½	24½	24.60	24½
Renaissance	48½	47¾	48	48.30
Rio Algom	31½	30.80	31½	31¼
Seagram Co	55.65	54.95	55.60	55.20
Stone Consold	18½	18.30	18½	18.40
Talisman Eny	45¼	45.35	45½	45½
Teleglobe	38¼	38¼	38¼	38¼
Telus	21.45	21.15	21.45	21.20
Thomson	30.40	30.20	30.35	30.35
TorDom Bank	38.10	37	37	36.85
Transalta	17½	17.10	17¼	17.60
TransCda Pipe	24½	24	24.40	24.10
Trizec Hahn	27	26.70	27	26.80
Utd Dominion	30.90	30.80	30.90	30.90
Westburn	12.20	12.10	12.10	12.45
Westcoast Eny	24.05	23.90	24.05	23.90
Weston	65¼	65	65	65

The Trib Index

Closing prices.

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	149.41	-0.18	-0.12	+13.30
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	130.18	-1.52	-1.15	-3.04
Europe	158.20	+0.49	+0.31	+13.67
N. America	162.47	+0.11	+0.07	+28.65
S. America	108.58	+0.22	+0.20	+21.95
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	170.43	+0.05	+0.03	+28.26
Consumer goods	161.21	-0.10	-0.06	+16.76
Energy	162.80	-0.32	-0.20	+20.04
Finance	123.12	-0.45	-0.36	-3.23
Miscellaneous	158.94	-0.62	-0.39	+17.03
Raw Materials	174.52	+0.74	+0.43	+23.07
Service	133.84	-0.17	-0.13	+11.53
Utilities	137.90	-0.10	-0.07	+8.46

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar values of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free booklet is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. Compiled by Bloomberg Business News.

Vienna — ATX Index: 1184.79 Previous: 1165.45

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aust Airlines	1460	1460	1500	1500
Brau-Un Goess	647	635.85	640	635.85
Bund Vers Pfd	394.50	394.50	490	490
Creditanst Pfd	516	512	515	514.55
EA-Generali	3419.95	3390	3419.95	3420
EVN	1582	1530	1570	1547
Interunfall	1481	1481	1500	1500
Lenzing	687.90	678.60	687.90	686.95
Leykam	292.95	290	292	291
Mayr-Melnhof	520.60	515	520.60	515
OMV	1158	1135	1155	1142
Oest Brau	728	720	721	727
Oest Elektriz	771.50	763.50	769	770
VA Tech	1710	1689	1700	1700
Wienerberger	1980	1967	1973	1978.50

Wellington — NZSE-40 Index: 2346.35 Previous: 2356.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	2.66	2.64	2.65	2.65
Brierly Invt	1.27	1.26	1.26	1.27
Carter Holt ord	3.26	3.21	3.23	3.27
Fernz	5.08	5.05	5.08	5.07
Fisher Paykel	5.35	5.33	5.35	5.35
FC Forest	2.32	2.31	2.32	2.31
Goodman Fder	1.84	1.78	1.80	1.78
Indep News	7.15	7.05	7.15	7.05
Lion Nathan	3.70	3.62	3.64	3.68
Nat Gas note	2.11	2.09	2.10	2.10
NZ Refining	28.20	28.00	28.00	28.00
Telecom NZ	7.47	7.43	7.43	7.46
Wilson Horton	11.10	11.05	11.05	11.11

Zurich — SPI Index: 2481.85 Previous: 2468.79

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adecco B	340	337	339	340
Alusuisse R	1039	1018	1035	1017
Ares-Serono B	1232	1220	1228	1220
Baloise Hdg R	2885	2800	2865	2835
ABB B	1617	1605	1616	1605
BK Vision	761	755	760	755
Bobst B	1730	1720	1730	1770
Ciba Geigy R	1628	1595	1618	1599
CS Holdings R	136.50	132.50	136.50	132.75
Elektrowatt B	516	500	510	504
Fischer B	1325	1312	1319	1325
HBB PC	830	825	826	835
Holderbank B	934	921	932	913
Jul. Baer Hdg B	1395	1367	1395	1377
Nestle R	1412	1400	1408	1402
Oerlikon R	133.50	129.75	133.50	130.50
Pargesa Hld B	1480	1465	1465	1467
PharmaVisn B	603	595	602	597
Pirelli B	180	177	179	178
Roche Hdg PC	9940	9705	9925	9830
Sandoz R	1522	1499	1522	1504
SBC R	257.25	253.50	257.25	255
Schindler B	1375	1351	1370	1360
SGS B	3015	2985	3010	3010
SMH B	827	816	827	821
Sulzer R	742	733	740	733
Swiss Reins R	1421	1404	1417	1414
Swissair R	977	966	972	975
UBS B	1223	1206	1222	1211
Valora Hdg R	257	244	254	247
Winterthur R	796	781	796	785
Zurich Assur R	370	366	369	366

مكتبة الامل

HOLIDAYS IN NEW YORK

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE BUSY

New York is known as a summer playground, but it is during the winter holiday season that the city really sparkles.

Combining the traditions of many cultures, New York as melting pot comes to a boil between Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (held on Nov. 28 this year) and the ball that drops on Times Square on New Year's Eve. The city comes alive with lights, displays, concerts, sporting events, exhibits and, of course, shopping. Below are some of the "don't miss" highlights of the season. (All phone numbers are area code 212.):

• The Christmas Tree at Rockefeller Center, possibly the largest in the world, will be lit on Dec. 3. (Who changes the 26,000 bulbs?) Leading the way to the ice rink and the tree that towers above it are angels and holly wreaths.

• The Hanukkah menorah, billed as "the world's largest," is lit in front of the Plaza Hotel on Dec. 5 at 5:30 P.M.

• Angels abound in the tree at the Metropolitan Museum's Neapolitan Baroque Crèche, while the Nativity unfolds below. Tel.: 535-7710. The American Museum of Natural History's origami tree is of more recent origin.

• The Cloisters, the Met's medieval collection, is an original abbey reconstructed brick by brick. Chants echo in the courtyard with Christmas displays inside. Tel.: 923-3700.

• Ice skating at the Wollman Rink in Central Park (tel.: 396-1010) and under the tree at Rockefeller Center (tel.: 332-6503).

• New York is the quintessential New Year's Eve city. Tops on the list is the ball drop at Times Square. Thanks to mounted police and better lighting, this event is surprisingly safe, if a bit rambunctious. •

FOTOGRAM/STONE

Macy's Thanksgiving Parade kicks off the festive season.

MUSIC, DANCE AND BROADWAY SHOWS FOR EVERY TASTE

Radio City's "Christmas Spectacular," featuring a Nativity pageant and the high-kicking Rockettes (separately), is a Christmas tradition. Tel.: (1 212) 247-4777.

Another, newer tradition is Broadway's "A Christmas Carol." This year the show is starring Tony Randall, at the Paramount Theater in Madison Square Garden. Tel.: (1 212) 465-6744.

The most beloved spectacle of all is the New York City Ballet's performance of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker." Choreographer George Balanchine put his stamp on this classic, and the lavish production is the stuff dreams are made of. It is being performed through January 5. Tel.: (1 212) 546-2656.

There are literally dozens of performances of Handel's "Messiah" all over the city. But only one lets you join in the singing: the "Messiah 29th Annual Sing-In" at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center. Tel.: (1 212) 721-6500/333-5333.

The Metropolitan Opera features its first "Midsummer Night's Dream." Benjamin Britten's interpretation of this Shakespearean comedy will be performed six times in December. The Met's "Hansel and Gretel," a holiday favorite, will be performed in late December and early January. Tel.: (1 212) 362-6000.

The Little Orchestra Society puts on another holiday opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors," on Dec. 7. Tel.: (1 212) 546-2656.

Other holiday concerts include the Vienna Boys' Choir at Carnegie Hall (Tel.: 1-212-247-7800) and the Boys' Choir of Harlem at Avery Fisher Hall (Tel.: 1-212-721-6500).

On Broadway, Bebe Neuwirth, Ann Reinking and James Norton have reimagined Bob Fosse's original production of "Chicago," with music by Kander and Ebb.

Frank Langella stars in a revival of Noel Coward's classic comedy "Present Laughter."

Sarah Jessica Parker stars in a revival, opening December 19, of the fanciful musical "Once Upon a Mattress." Based on Hans Christian Andersen's "The Princess and the Pea," the original made a star of Carol Burnett.

Other new shows include "Juan Darien, A Carnival Mass" and "God Said Ha," a one-woman show starring Julia Sweeney of "Saturday Night Live." •

IN FOOD HEAVEN

New York offers as complete an array of restaurants as any city in the world. What follows is a random selection.

Candy Bar: With camp '50s decor, cotton-candy colors and waiters in black T-shirts and clear plastic aprons, this is the quintessential Chelsea "Boy's Town" watering hole and eatery. 131 Eighth Ave. (Chelsea). Tel.: (1 212) 229-9702.

Frankie & Johnnies: New York is famous for its classic steakhouses. Here there's fresh seafood in he-man portions, but it's the meat – veal, lamb, chicken and liver – that attracts businesspeople and theater crowds. 269 W. 45th St. (Times Square). Tel.: (1 212) 997-9494.

Giambelli: Hearty northern Italian cuisine served in an old-fashioned, classic New York restaurant: 46 E. 50th St. (Midtown). Tel.: (1 212) 688-2760.

Lucky Cheng's: The "waitresses" are all Asian drag queens, serving Asian/California cuisine. Very popular (Yoko Ono is a regular) and almost terminally trendy: (East Village) 24 First Ave. Tel.: (1 212) 473-0516.

Nirvana: Top-notch Indian food in an inspired setting high above Central Park. Prix fixe lunch and dinner menus are a bargain – especially with this view. 30 Central Park South (North Midtown). Tel.: (1 212) 486-5700.

San Domenico: Luciano Pavarotti's favorite restaurant serves contemporary Bolognese cuisine and is located near Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Reasonable prix fixe menus. 240 Central Park South (North Midtown): Tel.: (1 212) 265-5959.

The Water's Edge: One of the most romantic restaurant settings in New York is across the East River. The best way to enjoy the Manhattan skyline is from Queens – a fact taken full advantage of here. Featuring American cuisine. 44th Drive & East River (Long Island City). Tel.: (1 718) 482-0033.

YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

The following is a selective list of hotels that are offering special packages during this holiday season.

A word of warning: New York is popular at holiday-time. Book your hotel early – unless you want a room along the New Jersey Turnpike.

• Gramercy Park Hotel: Quiet luxury in a landmark neighborhood. It is the only hotel in New York City that includes a private park. Singles $135, doubles $145, suites $180. Tel.: (1 212) 475-4320.

• *Manhattan East Suite Hotels:* All suites, including kitchenettes. Holiday rates from $134 (studio at Southgate Tower) to $379 (two-bedroom suites). Tel.: (1 212) 465-3690.

• The Mark Hotel: The epitome of chic, popular with visiting Hollywood royalty. Deluxe room $260 during holidays. Tel.: (1 212) 838-3110.

• The Pierre: An elegant jewel on Central Park. Holiday packages $315 and $380. Tel.: (1 212) 759-4100.

• The Regency Hotel: Old World charm and grace. Winter Shopping Special $205 plus Bloomingdale's certificates and other perks. Tel.: (1 212) 759-4100.

• The Ritz-Carlton: Conveniently located in Midtown Manhattan. December 19-30 special: $199, Central Park view $259. Tel.: (1 212) 757-1900.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

The following are a few selections of current exhibitions:

• Corot: an enormous retrospective of the French pre-Impressionist painter, on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Tel.: (1 212) 535-7710.

• Jasper Johns: a full retrospective of perhaps the most influential contemporary American artist, at the Museum of Modern Art. Tel.: (1 212) 708-9480.

• American Impressionists: 52 works from Maurice Prendergast to William Merrit Chase, from John Singer Sargent to Mary Cassatt, among others, at the Adelson Galleries. Tel.: (1 212) 439-6800.

• William Trost Richards: Works of a leading 19th-century American marine and landscape painter, many from the artist's family collection that have never been shown publicly, at Beacon Hill Fine Art. Tel.: (1 212) 734-3636.

• American Art: From the Hudson River School through Abstract Expressionism, a mini-history including works by artists as far-ranging as Albert Bierstadt, John Singer Sargent, Robert Henri and the Ash Can School, Georgia O'Keeffe and Jackson Pollock, at the Gerald Peters Gallery. Tel.: (1 212) 628-9760.

• "Lawrence Steigrad Fine Arts": The Otto Naumann Galleries are offering Old Master paintings, all priced under $100,000, in a user-friendly environment for new collectors and museums. Tel.: (1 212) 734-4443. •

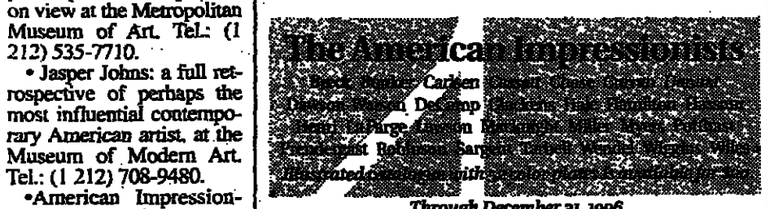
"HOLIDAYS IN NEW YORK"
was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune.
WRITER: *Steve Weinstein, based – naturally – in New York City.*
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: *Bill Mahder.*

LAWRENCE STEIGRAD FINE ARTS
presents an exhibition of
OLD MASTER PAINTINGS UNDER $100,000
December 5, 1996 - January 4, 1997
Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday: 11:00am - 5:00pm
(closed Dec. 25 & 28, 1996 and Jan. 1, 1997)
Exhibition Location
Otto Naumann, Ltd.
22 East 80th Street, New York, New York 10021
Tel: 212-734-4443 Fax: 212-535-0617

HOLIDAYS BEGIN AT THE WATER'S EDGE
A place for holiday cheer and seasonal good wishes.
Exceptional menus, holiday carolers & roasted chestnuts.
Enjoy the holidays at Water's Edge with the most spectacular view of the Manhattan skyline and the warmth of a wood-burning fireplace.
Start the evening off right with a trip across the river aboard our complimentary River Boat from the East 34th St. pier.
Reservations Required (718) 482-0033
East River at 44th Drive, Long Island City, New York

FRANKIE & JOHNNIE'S
STEAKHOUSE RESTAURANT
Where Good Folks Meet And Eat!!
Famous for Steaks & Chops.
269 W 45th St off Eighth Ave.
Free Dinner Parking
212-997-9494
Open For Lunch:
Tuesday - Saturday: 12: - 2:30 p.m.
194-05 North Blvd. 718-357-2444
163 14th St. Hoboken 201-659-6202

The cuisine, the wines, the crystal, the china, the linens, the leather, the paintings, the tiles and even the customers are Italian.
Tony May's
SANDOMENICO
GAULT MILLAU RATING 16/20
★★★ New York Times
★★★★ Mobil Travel Guide
AAA Travel Guide
Open Seven Days a Week.
240 Central Park South at 59th Street and Columbus Circles • (212)265-5959



Milton Avery, William Merritt Chase, Willem deKooning, Childe Hassam, John Marin, Georgia O'Keeffe, Jackson Pollock, *and other American artists*
GERALD P PETERS GALLERY
177 EAST 78TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10021
TELEPHONE 212 628-9760 • FAX 212 628-9635
NEW YORK • SANTA FE • DALLAS

The Great Party Place in the Sky is ... *Nirvana*
celebrating its 25th anniversary
"Nirvana, a stunningly beautiful restaurant overlooking Central Park that occupies the penthouse at 30 Central Park South. No New York restaurant has more spectacular setting."...
★★★★ New York Magazine
"Spectacular Views...Finest Indo-Bengali cuisine... on all counts-ambience, service, cuisine and price-Nirvana is hard to beat."...
★★★★Gourmet
NIRVANA PENTHOUSE 9
30 Central Park South, New York
212-486-5700

Visiting New York City?
Distinguished 509 room hotel overlooking Gramercy Park. Excellent Restaurant, Cocktail Lounge, Piano Bar and Room Service. Multi-lingual staff. Minutes to Business Centers & Sightseeing. Banquet and Meeting Facilities.
Singles $135-140 • Doubles $145
Suites $180 & Up
Gramercy Park Hotel
21st Street & Lexington Ave.
New York, New York 10010
212-475-4320
Fax: 212-505-0535
Member of Utell Int'l

Giambelli Quality
Giambelli Tradition
Giambelli Experience
Private rooms available • Open 7 days
46 E. 50th St., NYC
(Bet. Park & Madison Ave.)
(212) 688-2760-61

"One suite with a king-size bed and eight rooms with roof access."

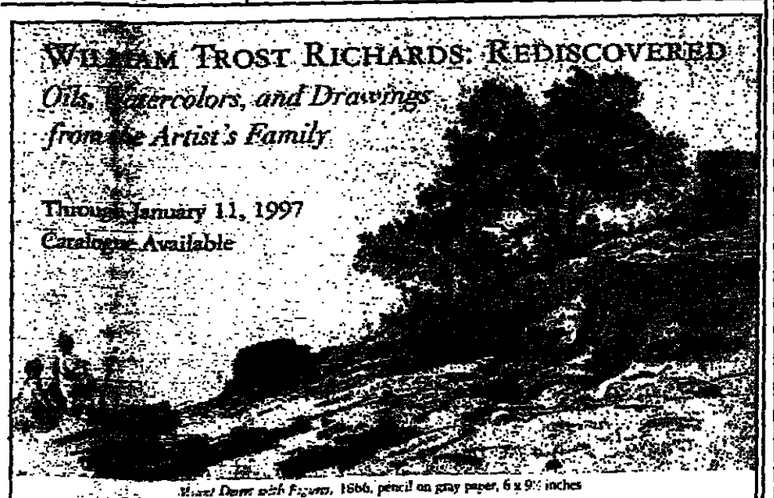
Special Holiday Rates
Daily Dec. 15 thru Jan. 12, 1997
$395
per suite, per night based on double occupancy
$260
per room per night based on double occupancy

Even Santa can't resist saving a few dollars. The Mark's special holiday package includes: continental breakfast, *N.Y. Times* each morning and shuttle service to the theater district Fri. & Sat. nights. All at a price that gives you extra money to spend on your holiday shopping.

The Mark. Madison Avenue at E. 77th Street, N.Y. Reservations: 212 744-4300 or 1 800-843-6275

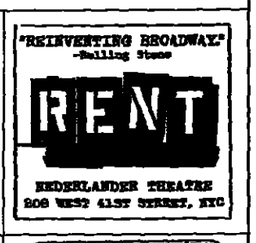
Rates do not include taxes, service charge or gratuities. A select number of rooms subject to availability. Rate subject to change. Not available for groups.

THE MARK
NEW YORK
SMALL LUXURY HOTELS OF THE WORLD
...a "The Leading Hotels of the World"



Mount Dame with Figures, 1866, pencil on gray paper, 6 x 9⅝ inches
BEACON HILL FINE ART
in association with JILL NEWHOUSE
980 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10021 Tel: 212.734.3636

CELEBRATE BROADWAY



For ticket prices & availability call The Broadway Line in N.Y.C. 212-563-2929. CELEBRATE BROADWAY is a registered trademark of The League of American Theatres and Producers, Inc.

Herald Tribune INTERNATIONAL
SPORTS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1996

WORLD ROUNDUP

Kanu Has Surgery

SOCCER The Nigerian striker Nwankwo Kanu has successfully undergone surgery at a U.S. hospital to correct a heart defect that threatened his career, his Italian club, Inter Milan, said Thursday.

The club said that the 20-year-old Nigerian underwent a four-hour operation Monday at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, which "involved a plastic aortic valve," but gave no more details. *(Reuters)*

Camby Strained His Back

BASKETBALL Toronto Raptors center Marcus Camby, carried off the court on a stretcher Tuesday, has a strained lower back that is expected to sideline him for a week. *(AP)*

Redgrave Afloat Again

ROWING Steve Redgrave on Thursday reversed his decision to quit competitive rowing after winning his fourth Olympic gold medal in Atlanta. A British finance company will back Redgrave and his rowing partner, Matthew Pinsent, with £1 million ($1.6 million) over the next four years. *(Reuters)*

India Struggles

CRICKET South African fast bowlers Allan Donald and Brian McMillan each took two Indian wickets Thursday on an eventful second day in the second test at Eden Gardens, Calcutta.

With two other batsmen run out and Mohammad Azharuddin with retiring hurt, India stumbled to 152 runs for six wickets at the close in reply to South Africa's first innings 428.

India began the day by seizing the touring team's last eight wickets for 89 after they resumed at 339 for two. Paceman Venkatesh Prasad finished with six wickets for 104 runs.

India's batsmen started well, Nayan Mongia and Rahul Dravid scored 68 for the first wicket but after Dravid was out for 31, India lost six wickets for 51.

• New Zealand reached 215 runs for eight wickets Thursday on the first day of the second test in Rawalpindi, thanks to an 81-run eighth-wicket stand between Stephen Fleming and skipper Lee Germon on the first day of the second test. Pakistan spin bowler Mushtaq Ahmad and Mohammad Zahid on his debut shared the eight wickets that fell. *(Reuters)*

Muzammil Pasha/Reuters

New Zealand's Bryan Young driving the ball against Pakistan.

Matt Campbell/The Associated Press

Marcus Allen of Kansas City rushing past Van Malone, 39, and Ryan McNeil of the Detroit Lions on Thursday.

Allen and Gannon Lead Chiefs Over Lions

The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Michigan — Marcus Allen set an NFL touchdown record, Rich Gannon ended the Kansas City quarterback controversy and the Chiefs may have made the so-called Wayne Watch academic in Detroit.

Allen rushed for two touchdowns, including the go-ahead score with 46 seconds remaining, to send the Chiefs to a 28-24 victory Thursday, ending the Lions' playoff hopes.

Detroit (5-8) needed another miracle finish to the season take the heat off embattled coach Wayne Fontes. Instead, the Lions have lost six of their last seven after starting the season 4-2.

Allen has 112 rushing touchdowns, bettering the old mark of 110 he had shared with Walter Payton. Jerry Rice holds the NFL record for touchdowns scored.

"This couldn't have come on a more appropriate day," Allen said. "I'm just thankful for the guys who did their job."

Gannon, named the starter ahead of Steve Bono earlier in the week, jumpstarted the offense for the Chiefs (9-4). Given the job because of his mobility, Gannon scrambled for 45 of Kansas City's 243 rushing yards.

A 21-yard field goal by Jason Hanson gave Detroit a 24-21 lead with 8:41 left in the fourth quarter. Gannon then set the tone for the Chiefs' winning drive with a 16-yard scramble on the first play. Greg Hill, who had 103 yards on 17 carries, ran seven times for 29 yards during the Chiefs' 76-yard, 15-play, final drive.

After a 7-yard run by Hill gave Kansas City first-and-goal at the 2, Allen returned. Allen, who finished with 73 yards on 15 carries, was stopped a yard short on his first carry, then soared over the top for the winning touchdown.

French Hope to Rain On Edberg's Finale

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

MALMO, Sweden — Stefan Edberg has been saying good-bye for a year now, shaking hands at the door, the car running in the driveway waiting for him to leave. On Sunday he will be gone. It seems now that he has been waiting to take with him a silver trophy bigger than a wedding cake.

"I really don't feel that much pressure," Edberg, 30, said near the trophy on the eve of his career-ending eighth Davis Cup final, where Sweden will be host to France. For the French, it will be a dramatic change from their last final, in 1991, when they upset the United States on the noisy fuel of a full house in Lyon.

This time, the French might realize what the Americans went through. Almost everyone in Sweden, and elsewhere, would like to see Edberg go out a winner.

"We all respect Stefan very much — he was a role model for a lot of people," said the nonplaying captain of the French team, Yannick Noah, applying the past tense hopefully. "If he were organizing a party, we would go and enjoy it with him. But he decided to have a party here and we're going to try to spoil that party."

Sweden has beaten France in seven of their 10 meetings, most recently in 1994 at Cannes. In 83 Davis Cup finals, the home team has won 56 times.

This one will begin and end with Edberg, a bit of sentimental luck. As Sweden's No. 2, he was drawn in the opening match Friday afternoon against the French No. 1, Cedric Pioline. Edberg has won the last four of his five matches against Pioline over the years. Their match will be followed by Edberg's likely heir in the rankings, Thomas Enqvist, against Arnaud Boetsch of France.

On Saturday the French doubles team of Guillaume Raoux and Guy Forget — at 32, Forget is the only survivor from the 1991 titlist — will play Nicklas Kulti and Jonas Bjorkman.

If it comes down to the fifth and final match Sunday, it will be left to the 27-year-old Boetsch to finish Edberg's career in the 5,600-seat Malmomassan, a converted automobile factory on Sweden's snowy, southernmost tip. Edberg had won all 10 of their meetings until this year, when Boetsch came back to knock him out of the Lipton in Florida.

Edberg concluded his ATP Tour career this month in Stockholm in a straight-sets loss to Kulti. Afterward, Edberg was presented with a rocking chair.

But in spite of good runs at the French and U.S. Opens, he did not win a single tournament this year.

"I really felt like Stockholm was the last tournament of my career," Edberg said. "The Davis Cup final is something else that has come along. It feels great to be part of the team. It takes the pressure off me. I know if I'm not able to win my matches we can still win."

The visitors were expecting a faster hard court, which might have further improved Sweden's chances. In practice, this week the portable "Plexipave" surface has been affording high bounces and a few bad ones. "You can play from anywhere in this court, the back or the front," Edberg said. "It suits anybody."

France is the fourth most successful nation in the Davis Cup: Sweden, the fifth. In 1926, France won a fourth-round tie in Sweden by 5-0. The following year, France began a dynasty that ended with its sixth Davis Cup trophy in 1932. Its seventh came in 1991.

The Swedes were latecomers, waiting until 1975 for the first of their five Davis Cups. Edberg has helped win the last four, including the breakthrough 4-1 victory over the United States in 1984. "That was when interest in tennis really exploded in Sweden," Edberg said.

The only helpful statistic as far as Pioline and Boetsch are concerned is Edberg's poor Davis Cup finals record of 2-4 in "live" singles. Three of the losses were inflicted by Boris Becker, however. Put Boetsch and Pioline together, and you still do not have Becker. But then, Edberg isn't what he used to be either.

Weah Is Suspended For One European Match

Reuters

AC Milan striker George Weah was banned Thursday for one match and could face further suspension for a violent incident at the end of a European Cup match in Oporto last week and broken.

UEFA, European soccer's governing body, suspended the Liberian for Milan's final game in the Champions' League phase of the European Cup and said it would conduct a full investigation.

Weah is alleged to have head-butted Porto defender Jorge Costa at the end of a match and broken Costa's nose. Costa underwent surgery last Thursday and is expected to be out of action for at least three weeks.

The Porto defender could also face suspension if UEFA finds he triggered the incident with racial taunts.

Milan officials and Weah's wife, Claire, claim the Liberian was showered with spit and racial taunts throughout the match and they highlighted his otherwise sparkling record.

The decision means that Weah will miss Milan's final Champions' League game against Norway's Rosenborg in the San Siro stadium next Wednesday. Milan needs a point to clinch a place in the quarter-finals of the European Cup. If it loses, Rosenborg will qualify instead.

SOCCER ROUNDUP

FRANCE Scotland's John Collins scored the goal Thursday that put Monaco at the top of the French first division with a 1-0 win at Montpellier.

Collins sidefooted in a low cross from Nigeria's Victor Ikpeba in the 51st minute against the run of play. It took Monaco's tally to 35 goals in 20 matches, the highest total in the division.

Montpellier, in 17th place, dominated for most of the match against a Monaco team depleted by injuries and suspension.

But Monaco managed to survive and could have scored again through Brazilian striker Anderson.

Bordeaux climbed to third with a 1-0 home victory over Metz.

An own goal in the 35th minute by defender David Terrier, under pressure from midfielder Michel Pavon, gave Bordeaux the points.

Veteran striker Jean-Pierre Papin might have made Bordeaux's victory more comfortable if he had netted two excellent chances that went just wide.

Both Metz and Monaco play in the UEFA Cup next Tuesday.

Baseball Turns Attention To Traditional Labor Deals

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ryne Sandberg and Denny Neagle stayed put but several other baseball players switched clubs.

Sandberg chose to stay with the Chicago Cubs, agreeing to a one-year deal worth $3.5 million, guaranteed.

Neagle, the newest member of the Atlanta Braves' pitching staff, also got a new deal Wednesday, a $17.5 million, four-year contract that replaced the two-year deal he signed with Pittsburgh before last season.

In a pair of trades designed to overhaul their bullpen, the New York Mets sent first baseman Rico Brogna to Philadelphia and pitcher Jerry DiPoto to Colorado. In return, New York got pitchers Toby Borland and Ricardo Jordan for Brogna and Armando Reynoso for DiPoto.

San Francisco sent pitchers Allen Watson and Fausto Macey to the California Angels for first baseman J.T. Snow. Kansas City acquired right-hander Jamie Brewington from San Francisco for a player to be named.

Among players eligible for salary arbitration, a Twins' reliever, Mike Trombley, got a $775,000, two-year contract and a Dodgers' outfielder, Wayne Kirby, got a $450,000, one-year deal.

Reliever Bryan Harvey agreed to a minor-league contract with the Braves, who agreed to give him a $500,000, one-year deal if he makes the major-league roster next season.

Sandberg, the 37-year-old second baseman who became a free agent earlier this month, came out of retirement last season and hit .244 with 25 homers and 92 runs batted in. He committed just six errors and nearly won his 10th Gold Glove award.

"The fact that he had a year-and-a-half off and that he put up those numbers is quite remarkable," the Cubs' general manager, Ed Lynch, said.

Sandberg made $2.8 million last season and is to get $3.25 million in 1997 with the chance to earn $250,000 more in performance bonuses: $50,000 each for 100, 110, 120, 130 and 140 games played.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	11	4	.733	—
Orlando	7	3	.700	1½
New York	8	5	.615	2
Washington	7	6	.538	3
Philadelphia	5	8	.385	5
Boston	4	8	.333	5½
New Jersey	2	8	.200	6½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	13	1	.929	—
Detroit	11	2	.846	1½
Cleveland	9	4	.692	3½
Milwaukee	8	6	.571	5
Charlotte	7	6	.538	5½
Atlanta	8	7	.533	5½
Toronto	4	9	.308	8½
Indiana	3	8	.273	8½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	13	1	.929	—
Utah	10	2	.833	2
Minnesota	5	8	.385	7½
Denver	5	10	.333	8½
Dallas	4	9	.308	8½
San Antonio	2	12	.143	11
Vancouver	2	13	.133	11½

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	13	3	.813	—
L.A. Lakers	10	6	.625	3
Portland	9	6	.600	3½
L.A. Clippers	6	8	.429	6
Sacramento	5	9	.357	7
Golden State	3	10	.231	8½
Phoenix	1	13	.071	11

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Portland	28	21	29	40—128
San Antonio	21	14	30	34—109

P: Sabonis 8-13 7-10 23, Robinson 6-15 7-8 20; S.A.: Wilkins 11-21 7-9 33, Elliott 10-18 7-8 27. Rebounds—Portland 56 (Trent 7), San Antonio 39 (Wilkins 11). Assists—Portland 23 (K.Anderson 8), San Antonio 25 (Johnson 12).

Denver	37	33	15	18—103
Utah	19	17	36	35—107

D: Slth 9-16 6-6 31, Ellis 7-15 9-12 25; U: Malone 13-25 5-7 31, Hornacek 10-20 7-7 29. Rebounds—Denver 42 (McDyess 11), Utah 47 (Malone 17). Assists—Denver 25 (Jackson 13), Utah 29 (Stockton 10).

New Jersey	24	20	18	15— 77
Phoenix	28	22	30	19— 99

N.J.: Gill 7-17 3-4 18, Ja.Williams 5-19 2-4 12, P. Person 7-15 4-7 22, Finley 7-12 4-4 18. Rebounds—New Jersey 56 (Ja.Williams 13), Phoenix 60 (Green 13). Assists—New Jersey 15 (Pack 5), Phoenix 28 (Johnson 8).

Miami	48	19	18	21— 98
L.A. Clippers	14	26	17	25— 82

Mi: Majerle 11-20 5-7 26, Gunning 9-12 1-2 19; L.A.: Delaney 5-15 3-3 14, Rogers 4-11 3-3 11. Rebounds—Miami 56 (Brown, Mourning 10), Los Angeles 41 (Vaught 10). Assists—Miami 16 (Hardaway 6), L.A. 11 (Rogers, Martin 3).

Charlotte	25	28	23	22— 98
Toronto	29	24	20	19— 92

C: Price 9-19 10-12 29, Davis 6-12 2-4 15, T. Williams 8-18 3-4 23, Wright 8-16 0-0 16, Christie 6-17 1-3 16. Rebounds—Charlotte 56 (Divac 12), Toronto 54 (Jones 18). Assists—Charlotte 28 (Mason, Coleman 5), Tor.17 (Stoudamire 6).

Atlanta	24	18	21	12—75
Orlando	19	18	24	16—77

A: Mutombo 8-17 4-4 20, Corbin 3-15 3-3 19; O: Selkaly 5-15 6-8 16, Strong 5-11 0-0 12. Assists—At. 12 (Blaylock 5), Orlando 13 (Seikaly, Shaw, Armstrong 3).

Vancouver	21	24	11	22— 78
Detroit	22	19	25	20— 87

V: Anthony 10-19 0-0 24, Peeler 6-15 0-0 14; D: Hunter 7-17 6-7 24, Thorpe 6-11 5-8 17. Rebounds—Vancouver 48 (Mobley 7), Detroit 56 (Thorpe 14). Assists—Vancouver 18 (Anthony 5), Detroit 18 (Hill 8).

L.A. Lakers	30	22	21	21— 94
Boston	29	22	31	28—110

LA.: O'Neal 10-15 2-7 22, Jones 6-19 5-6 19; B: Walker 8-14 2-4 19, Pasla 9-18 1-2 19. Rebounds—Los Angeles 52 (O'Neal 10), Boston 58 (Walker 12). Assists—Los Angeles 19 (O'Neal 5), Boston 25 (Fox 6).

Seattle	33	28	18	27—106
Minnesota	24	22	23	29— 98

S: Schrempf 10-16 4-4 27, Hawkins 10-14 1-2 24, Payton 9-20 3-4 22; M: Gugliotta 10-14 2-3 22, Garnett 7-11 7-9 21. Rebounds—Seattle 48 (Kemp 14), Minnesota 51 (Garnett 17). Assists—Seattle 27 (Payton 12), Minnesota 27 (Garnett 7).

Cleveland	17	25	21	12— 75
Milwaukee	23	18	23	18— 92

C: Hill 6-11 0-0 16, Brandon 5-17 2-2 13; M: Baker 7-13 3-9 22, Robinson 8-17 4-6 22. Rebounds—Cleveland 43 (Ferry 9), Milwaukee 48 (Robinson 12). Assists—Cleveland 19 (Brandon 6), Milwaukee 17 (Robinson, Douglas, Newman 4).

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	15	3	5	35	74	46
New Jersey	12	8	1	25	53	54
Washington	12	10	1	25	67	62
Philadelphia	12	12	1	25	66	63
N.Y. Rangers	9	13	4	22	84	78
N.Y. Islanders	5	9	8	18	56	64
Tampa Bay	7	12	2	16	62	89

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Hartford	10	7	4	24	62	66
Montreal	10	11	4	24	91	97
Buffalo	11	11	1	23	65	67
Boston	8	9	4	20	59	68
Ottawa	7	8	6	20	57	51
Pittsburgh	7	13	2	16	67	80

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	12	8	3	31	73	47
Dallas	14	8	1	29	66	56
St. Louis	13	11	0	26	75	72
Chicago	11	11	3	25	66	65
Toronto	10	14	0	20	72	84
Phoenix	6	12	4	16	50	66

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	15	6	4	34	93	55
Vancouver	13	9	0	26	69	64
Edmonton	12	12	1	25	88	80
Los Angeles	10	10	3	23	64	72
Calgary	9	13	2	20	66	69
San Jose	8	12	4	20	61	79
Anaheim	5	14	4	14	64	83

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Vancouver	0	2	4—6
Hartford	1	0	1—2

First Period: H-Dineen 6 (Sanderson, O'Neill). Second Period: V-Brashear 7 (Sillinger, Murzyn), V-Ridley 7 (Bertuzzi, Mogilny). Third Period: V-Ridley 8 (Gelinas, Mogilny), V-Mogilny 11, H-Sandersen 12 (Cassels) (sh), V-Mogilny 12 (Gelinas, Ridley), H-Tikkanen 4 (Ridley, Mogilny). Shots on goal: V- 7-9-15—31. H- 13-16-14—43. Goalies: V-Hirsch, H-Burke.

Montreal	1	1	0—2
Pittsburgh	1	0	1—2

First Period: P-Necved 11 (Sandstrom, Recchi), M-Savage 12 (Koivu, Recchi). Second Period: M-Burego 4 (Brisebois, Damphousse) (pp). Third Period: P-Jagr 19 (sh). Overtime: None. Shots on goal: M- 15-8-2-3—28. P- 13-6-12-3—34. Goalies: M-Theoret, P-Wregget.

Philadelphia	0	1	0—1
N.Y. Islanders	2	1	1—4

First Period: New York, Jonsson 1 (Palffy) 2, New York, McInnis 6 (Andersson, Yashin). Second Period: New York, Palffy 14 (sh), 4. P-Cito 3 (Poden, Desjardins). Third Period: New York, McInnis 7 (Berard). Shots on goal: P- 11-7-12—30. New York 8-15-5—31. Goalies: P-Hextall, Snow, New York, Salo.

Ottawa	0	2	0—2
Washington	1	0	0—1

First Period: W-Simon 6 (Sandra) Second Period: O-Van Allen 1 (Daigle, Vial) 3, O-Patrick 2 (Daigle, Lambert). Third Period: None. Shots on goal: O- 3-7-5—15. W- 12-10-10—32. Goalies: O-Tugnutt, W-Carey.

Buffalo	0	0	3—3
Tampa Bay	0	0	0—0

First Period: None. Second Period: None. Third Period: B-Holzinger 8 (Audette, Boughner) 2, B-Brown 4 (Burridge) 3, B-Burridge 5 (Plante) (en). Shots on goal: B- 3-11-7—21. T- 4-13-15—32. Goalies: B-Hasek, T-Tabaracci.

Toronto	1	1	0—2
Detroit	2	2	1—5

First Period: T-Baker 2 (Sundin) 2, D-Shanahan 12 (McCarty, Lidstrom) (pp), 3, D-Shanahan 13 (Donderault, Larionov) Second Period: T-Clark 13 (Murphy, Gilmour) (pp), 5, D-Shanahan 14 (Yzerman, Donderault) 6, D-, Lapointe 8 (Taylor, Holmstrom) Third Period: D-McCarty 8 (Yzerman, Shanahan).

Shots on goal: T- 9-10-6—25. D- 16-18-15—49. Goalies: T-Potvin, D-Osgood.

New Jersey	0	2	1—3
Dallas	0	0	2—2

First Period: None. Second Period: N.J.-Andreychuk 7, 2, N.J.-, Daneyko 1 (McKay, Rolston) Third Period: D-Langenbrunner 7 (Kennedy, Hogue) 4, D-Reid 4 (Marshall) 5, N.J.-MacLean 7 (Stevens) Shots on goal: N.J.- 6-11-9—24. D- 13-12-8—33. Goalies: N.J.-Dunham, D-Moog.

N.Y. Rangers	0	3	2—5
Colorado	1	0	1—2

First Period: C-Ricci 2 (Yelle, Corbet). Second Period: New York, Messier 13 (Kovalev, Graves) 3, New York, Flatley 4 (Langdon, Gretzky) 5, New York, Messier 14 (sh), Third Period: New York, Flatley 5, 6, C-Yelle 3 (Krupp) 7, New York, Sundstrom 9 (Leetch) (en). Shots on goal: New York 7-14-5—26. C- 17-5-11—33. Goalies: New York, Richter, C-Roy.

Los Angeles	2	0	3—5
Edmonton	0	0	1—1

First Period: L.A.-Blake 3 (Yachmenev, Khristich) (pp), 2, L.A.-Tsyplakov 6 (Blake, Laperriere) Second Period: None. Third Period: L.A.-Bylsma 1 (Fline, Ferraro) 15:47, 4, L.A.-Khristich 6 (Yachmenev) 5, L.A., Ferraro 9 (Johnson) 6, E-Richardson 7 (Marchment, Murray) Shots on goal: L.A.-9-18-11—38. E- 11-9-14—34. Goalies: L.A.-Dafoe, E-Essenso.

Chicago	0	1	1—2
San Jose	0	3	0—3

First Period: None. Second Period: S.J.-Friesen 7, 2, S.J.-Turcotte 7 (Dahlen, Gill) (pp), 3, C-Amonte 16 (Carney, Krivokrasov) 4, S.J.-Granato 9 (Nicholls) (pp). Third Period: C-Probert 1 (Shantz, Weinrich) Shots on goal: C- 7-7-11—25, S.J.- 6-10-8—24. Goalies: C-Belfour, S.J.-Hrudey.

St. Louis	1	1	1—3
Anaheim	1	1	0—2

First Period: A-Ruccchin 3 (Konya, Bellows) (pp), 2, S.L.-Hull 11 (Turgeon, Courtnall) (pp). Second Period: A-Kurri 5 (Todd, Bellows) 4, St. Louis, Courtnall 4 (Zezel, Pelosi) Third Period: S.L.-Petrovicky 1 (Pronger, Hull) Shots on goal: S.L.- 12-9-9—30. A- 6-9-9—24. Goalies: S.L.-Fuhr, A-Hebert.

SOCCER

ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP

FOURTH ROUND

Bolton 6, Tottenham 1
Leicester 2, Manchester United 0
Liverpool 4, Arsenal 2
Middlesbrough 3, Newcastle 1
West Ham 1, Stockport 1

SPANISH CUP

SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEG

Real Sociedad 1, Osasuna 1
(Osasuna won 2-1 on aggregate)
Valladolid 1, Tolrera 1
(Valladolid won 4-1 on aggregate)
Athletic Bilbao 2, Zalla 1
(Athletic won 5-1 on aggregate)
Racing Santander 0, Eibar 0
(1-1 aggregate, Racing won on away goals)
Lagrones 0, Alaves 0
(1-1 aggregate, Log. won on away goals)
Oviedo 3, Avilles 0
(Oviedo won 8-1 on aggregate)
Compostela 1, Leganes 0
(Compostela won 2-1 on aggregate)
Real Madrid 2, Salamanca 0
(Real Madrid won 4-0 on aggregate)
Sevilla 0, Malaga 0
(Sevilla won 1-0 on aggregate)
Real Betis 2, Ecija 0
(Betis won 4-1 on aggregate)
Rayo Vallecano 5, Albacete 1
(Rayo won 5-1 on aggregate)
Deportivo Coruna 2, Mallorca 0
(Deportivo won 3-1 on aggregate)
Extremadura 5, Merida 1
(Extremadura won 5-2 on aggregate)
Hercules 2, Levante 0
(Hercules won 2-1 on aggregate)
Zaragoza 2, Real Union 1
(Zaragoza won 6-1 on aggregate).

ITALIAN CUP

QUARTERFINALS, SECOND LEG

Lazio 1, Napoli 1
(Napoli won 2-1 on aggregate)
Vicenza 0, Milan 0
(1-1 on aggregate, Vic. won on away goals)

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

QUARTERFINALS, FIRST LEG

Goias 3, Gurarani 1
Portuguesa 3, Cruzeiro 0

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH

IN NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND

English Midlands 24, Argentina 90

TOUR MATCH

IN GATESHEAD, ENGLAND

North of England 13, South Africa A 29

CRICKET

SECOND TEST

THURSDAY, IN RAWALPINDI, PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN VS. INDIA

New Zealand 1st Innings: 215-8

SECOND TEST

THURSDAY, IN CALCUTTA

INDIA VS. SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa 1st Innings: 428
India 1st Innings: 152-6

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

ANAHEIM —Named Larry Bowa third-base coach and Dave Parker first-base coach.
KANSAS CITY —Designated 1B-OF Kevin Young for assignment.
MINNESOTA —Agreed to terms with RHP Mike Trombley on two-year contract.
OAKLAND —Named Bob Johnson major league advance scout; Rich Sparks area scout for Michigan, Indiana and Ohio; Eric Kubota Pacific Rim coordinator-Northern California scouts; and Dave Seifert assistant director of scouting.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ATLANTA —Agreed to terms with LHP Denny Neagle on four-year contract. Assigned C Joe Ayrault outright to Richmond, IL.
CHICAGO —Agreed to terms with 2B Ryne Sandberg on one-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS —Agreed to terms with OF Wayne Kirby on one-year contract. Announced INF Dave Hansen has refused assignment and elected free agency. Assigned LHP Brandon Watts, INF Howard Battle, INF Tripp Cromer and INF Carey Ingram to Albuquerque, PCL.
NEW YORK —Traded 1B Rico Brogna to Philadelphia Phillies for RHP Toby Borland and LHP Ricardo Jordan. Traded RHP Jerry DiPoto to the Colorado Rockies for RHP Armando Reynoso.
SAN FRANCISCO —Acquired 1B J.T. Snow from the California Angels for LHP Allen Watson and RHP Fausto Macey. Traded RHP Jamie Brewington to Kansas City Royals for a player to be named.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

BOSTON —Activated G Dee Brown from injured list. Put F-C Pervis Ellison on injured list.
DENVER —Waived G Eric Murdock.
HOUSTON —Signed G Elmer Bennett. Put C Charles Jones on the injured list.
TORONTO —Released C Mel Robinson.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BUFFALO —Signed OL Dave Hack to practice squad.
INDIANAPOLIS —Signed QB Kelly Holcomb to practice squad. Waived OL Steve Hendrix from practice squad.
OAKLAND —Put P Jeff Gossett on injured reserve. Signed P Rich Camarillo.
PHILADELPHIA —Signed WR Brandon Hardison and S Thomas McGaughey to practice squad.
PITTSBURGH —Put TE Mark Bruener on injured reserve.
SAN DIEGO —Re-signed CB Michael Smith to practice squad.

NOVEMBER 29, 1900

THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN ALL OF SPORTS. HUNDREDS OF FOOTBALL FANS CLIMB ATOP A SAN FRANCISCO GLASSWORKS FACTORY TO WATCH STANFORD BATTLE CALIFORNIA. THE ROOF COLLAPSES UNDER THEIR WEIGHT. 13 UNLUCKY SPECTATORS DROP INTO VATS OF MOLTEN GLASS. TALK ABOUT DIE-HARD FANS!

Bud

IT'S BUD'S FOR YOU

SPORTS

Suns Finally Rise, Nets Are Fall Guys

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PHOENIX — They couldn't go 0 for the season. But who would be their first victim?

"They have to beat somebody," Jayson Williams said. "They're not going to go 0-82." The New Jersey Nets' forward was referring to the Phoenix Suns, who had begun the season 0-13.

Williams and was right. The Suns ended their drought against the Nets, Wednesday. Wesley Person, one of many underachieving Suns, lit up the desert on Wednesday night with 22

NBA Roundup

points to lead Phoenix to a surprisingly easy 99-77 victory over struggling New Jersey.

The victory was Danny Ainge's first as head coach in his sixth attempt since taking over for Cotton Fitzsimmons. "To put this in perspective, this is a team we're supposed to beat on our home court," Ainge said. "I told the players that. We have a long way to go."

The Nets did all they could to help Ainge. New Jersey, the worst shooting team in the league (coming into the game at 40 percent), shot 31.8 percent against Phoenix.

Yet Phoenix was four defeats shy of the National Basketball Association record for losses to open a season. The Suns, one of the worst rebounding teams in the league, outrebounded the Nets, the best in the league, by 47-44.

Michael Finley, Kevin Johnson and Person each scored eight points in the third quarter when the Suns, who hadn't led by double figures all season, outscored New Jersey 30-18 to take an 80-62 lead into the final period.

Joe Kleine, who had seven of his 11 points in the fourth quarter, squelched the Nets' final rally with a pair of jumpers for a 93-73 lead with 3:52 left.

The Nets' starting backcourt of Kerry Kittles and Robert Pack went 3 for 20 overall. Williams, who had 12 points and 13 rebounds, was 5 for 19. The 7-foot, 6-inch (2.3 meter) center Shawn Bradley had 7 points and 4 rebounds.

"It's been hard the last couple of days to look at the box scores," said Johnson, who had 17 points and eight assists in his third game back since an injury. "You look at the box scores and see a team 0-10, 0-12 and then 0-13. It's tough to get to that point. It got downright embarrassing."

Jazz 107, Nuggets 103 At Salt Lake City, the Jazz came back from a 34-point halftime deficit, the largest second-half comeback since that statistic started being kept in 1980.

"It was a crazy game — I don't think I've ever seen anything crazier," said the Jazz's guard, John Stockton.

The Nuggets led by 36 points late in the first half, but they were outscored 71-33 over the last two quarters as the Jazz racked up their eighth straight triumph.

Jeff Hornacek scored 29 points, including five in the final 1:16, and Karl Malone added 31 points and 17 rebounds.

"We looked like a deer in a headlights," Denver coach Dick Motta said.

Heat 98, Clippers 82 Miami won at Los Angeles to go 6-0 on its longest road trip of the season. Dan Majerle scored a season-high 26 points and Alonzo Mourning added 19 on 9-of-10 shooting. Miami used a 21-2 run to take a 33-8 lead late in the first period. Los Angeles never got closer than 12 the rest of the way.

Pistons 87, Grizzlies 78 Lindsey Hunter made four 3-pointers in the first five minutes and scored 24 points, and Grant Hill had 15 points, eight assists and six rebounds for the host Pistons.

Celtics 110, Lakers 94 Antoine Walker and Dino Radja scored 19 points each and the Celtics held Shaquille O'Neal to just one point in the fourth quarter as the home fans revived a chant from the Celtics' championship years: "Beat LA! Beat LA."

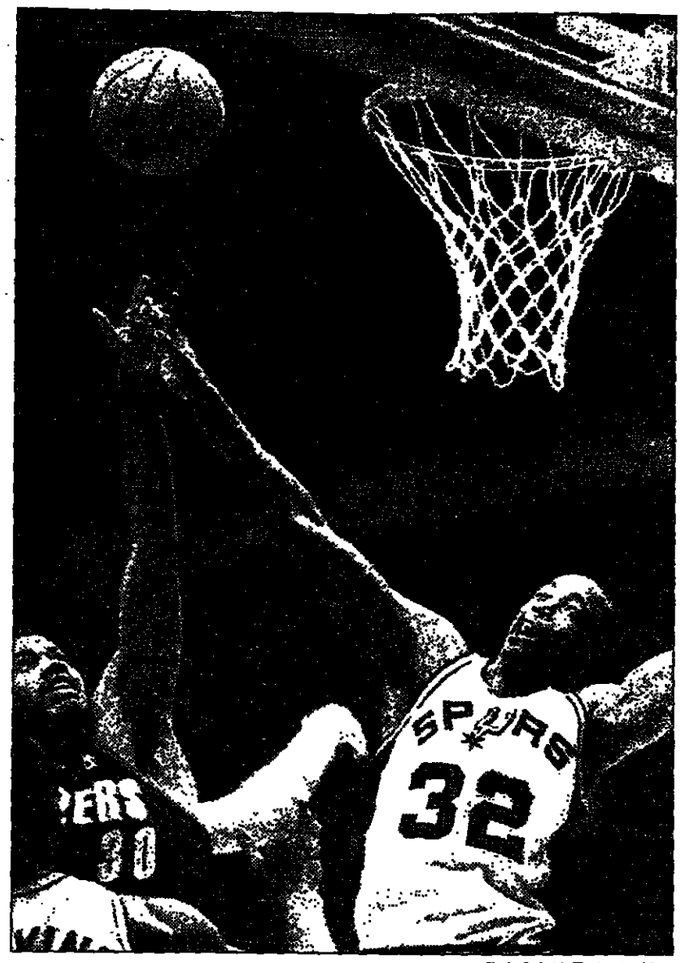
Raptors 92, Hornets 88 At Toronto, Popeye Jones grabbed a club-record 18 rebounds and made two key free throws with 23 seconds to play as the Raptors ended a six-game losing streak.

Magic 79, Hawks 78 Nick Anderson made three 3-pointers in the final 2:40 to help the host Magic improve to 7-3. Rony Seikaly grabbed two of his 19 rebounds and went 3-for-4 on free throws in the final 17.9 seconds as the Magic held on.

SuperSonics 106, Timberwolves 98 At Minneapolis, Detlef Schrempf and Hersey Hawkins tied season-highs with 27 and 24 points, respectively, and Seattle withstood five 3-pointers in the fourth quarter by Shane Heal to beat the Wolves for the 22d consecutive time.

Trail Blazers 120, Spurs 109 Kenny Anderson scored 25 points, Arvydas Sabonis added 23, and Portland — the worst free-throw shooting team in the league last season — went 13-of-14 from the foul line in the final 85 seconds to beat the host Spurs.

Bucks 92, Cavaliers 75 At Milwaukee, Vin Baker and Glenn Robinson scored 22 points each and Milwaukee broke its 10-game losing streak to the Cavs. *(NYT, AP)*



Charles Barkedale/The Associated Press

The Blazers' Rasheed Wallace (30) shooting over Sean Elliot of the Spurs.

Messier Takes Out Anger On Champion Colorado

The Associated Press

Mark Messier's bad mood is translating into good things for the New York Rangers.

Angry over his team's recent bad play, Messier has taken things into his own hands and the result has been two straight victories — including Wednesday night's 5-2 drubbing of the Colorado Avalanche.

"He's been in a bad mood, and it rubs off on us," the Rangers' defenseman, Ulf Samuelsson, said after Messier scored

NHL Roundup

twice against the defending Stanley Cup champion. "He has really taken charge and led the way for the rest of us."

The night before, Messier scored all three goals as the Rangers beat the Phoenix Coyotes, 3-1. Before winning the last two, the Rangers had gone 1-7-1 in their previous nine games.

Messier got the tying goal midway through the second period on Wednesday night, then added a shorthanded goal after stealing the puck from Sandis Ozolinsh for a 3-1 lead late in the period. The goals gave the Rangers' captain 14 for the season.

Pat Flatley also scored twice and Niklas Sundstrom had the Rangers' other goal. Brian Leetch assisted on Sundstrom's goal, extending his consecutive game-scoring streak to 13 games, longest in the NHL. Mike Ricci and Stephane Yelle scored for Colorado.

Canadiens 2, Penguins 2 At Pittsburgh, Jaromir Jagr scored shorthanded on a breakaway midway through the third period to help the Penguins tie Montreal. Marc Bureau had put Montreal ahead, 2-1, with a power-play goal in the second period. Petr Nedved scored Pittsburgh's other goal while Brian Savage scored for Montreal, both in the first period.

Canucks 6, Whalers 2 Mike Ridley and Alexander Mogilny scored two goals each and Corey Hirsch made 41 saves, leading Vancouver over host Hartford.

Islanders 4, Flyers 1 Marty McInnis scored twice and Tommy Salo stopped 29 shots as the Islanders beat the visiting Flyers, Philadelphia's second straight loss since the return of captain Eric Lindros.

Senators 2, Capitals 1 Ron Tugnutt made 31 saves as visiting Ottawa won its first road game against Washington and ended the Capitals' six-game unbeaten streak.

Red Wings 5, Maple Leafs 2 At Detroit, Brendan Shanahan scored his 300th goal while completing his eighth career hat trick, leading the Red Wings over Toronto.

Sabres 3, Lightning 0 Brian Holzinger broke a scoreless tie early in the third period as visiting Buffalo beat the Lightning.

Devils 3, Stars 2 John MacLean's goal with 1:56 to play gave visiting New Jersey a victory over Dallas.

Kings 5, Oilers 1 At Edmonton, Byron Dafoe made 34 saves and came within five seconds of his second career shutout as Los Angeles ended a three-game losing streak.

Sharks 3, Blackhawks 2 Tony Granato scored his 200th career goal and the host Sharks used a pair of power-play goals to break a three-game losing streak. Jeff Friesen and Darren Turcotte added goals for the Sharks.

Blues 3, Mighty Ducks 2 Robert Petrovicky scored the go-ahead goal with 11:26 left in the third period and Geoff Courtnall had a goal and an assist as visiting St. Louis rallied to beat Anaheim.

Local Rivals Fight to be No.1 in America

By Anthony Cotton
Washington Post Service

WHEN it comes to college football games between No. 1 and No. 2 ranked teams, such as the contest Saturday contest between Florida and Florida State, many factors are essential to victory: talent, strategy — pink walls.

That was the blend Hayden Fry, Iowa's coach, carried into a 1985 matchup against second-ranked Michigan. Before the game in Iowa City, Fry had the visiting locker room done in a lovely pastel in an effort to soothe the aggressiveness right out of the Wolverines.

Bo Schembechler, the Michigan coach, "saw that and the day before the game he sent his coaching staff into town and bought sheets of paper to cover the pink walls," Fry recalled. "He spent a lot of time doing that. When I saw him before the game, I told him that I knew we were going to win because any coach who spent so much time worrying about the walls in his locker room couldn't have his team prepared."

The Hawkeyes won 12-10 on a last-second field goal.

Although such a low score might give pause to fans of the high-scoring teams competing this year, both coaches would be happy with any kind of victory Saturday.

Steve Spurrier, the Florida coach, was on the losing end of the last 1 vs. 2 contest, a 62-24 shellacking by Nebraska in last January's Fiesta Bowl.

"No. 1 clobbered No. 2 last year. We didn't get through that worth a dog," Spurrier said this week. "I don't think that'll happen this time. We are a lot better mentally. Hopefully we're a little bit tougher team. Time will tell."

Bobby Bowden, the Florida State coach, has been in three previous games between top-ranked teams, losing to Miami in 1991 and Notre Dame in '93 before beating Nebraska in the 1994 Orange Bowl to win his first national title.

"In '93, Notre Dame had a tremendous advantage playing at Notre Dame. Now we're playing this at Tallahassee. It helps," Bowden said.

Since 1943, there have been 30 matchups between Nos. 1 and 2; Saturday's will be the first regular season pairing since the second-ranked Fighting Irish took their 31-24 decision over the Seminoles in '93.

EARLIER this season, the Gators, then ranked third, met No. 2 Tennessee in Knoxville before a crowd of more than 107,000, the biggest in college football history and won, 35-29.

Bowden said that that game, as well as the loss last season in the Fiesta Bowl, would help the Gators this time.

"The one thing Florida lacked was the atmosphere they are going to get on Saturday. Now they've been through that. Now they'll be ready."

Fry said the thing he regrets about recent top-two matchups is that, because so much is at stake — trips to bowl games with multimillion-dollar payoffs — neither squad is really allowed to just enjoy the experience.

Besides the locker room incident, when Michigan took the field before the '85 contest, Fry said he deliberately sent his punting unit to the Wolverines' end of the field to practice — but he used guards and tackles as snappers instead of the regular center.

"Snaps were falling three feet in front of the punter or going 10 feet over his head," Fry said. "Bo came up to me and said, 'You're not really going to use these guys are you?' I told him, 'Coach Schembechler, we don't plan on punting at all today.' That really got him going."

Though much has been made of Saturday's game because it is coming so late in the season, all a victory does is eliminate the loser from the national title.

Should Florida State win, the Seminoles would move up to No. 1 but still have to win the Sugar Bowl, probably against the current No. 4, Nebraska, to win the national title.

A Florida victory would be only a prelude to two other tough games — against Alabama the following Saturday in the Southeastern Conference championship game and in New Orleans in the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 2.

Nebraska faces No. 5 Colorado on Friday, but coach Tom Osborne admitted this week that he will be watching the proceedings in Tallahassee on Saturday.

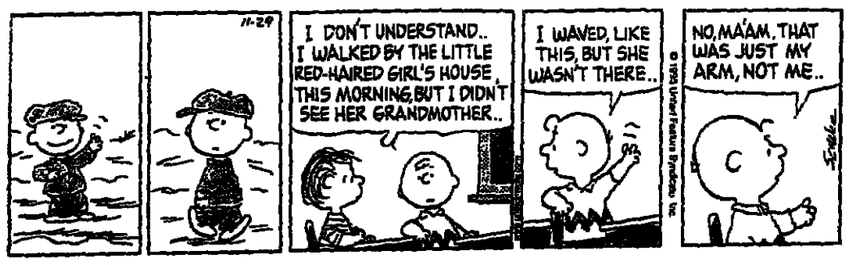
"You're always thinking about playing somebody as good as Florida and Florida State — it's just natural," Osborne said. "I'll watch that game with interest because those teams represent the top level of college football."

Damian Strohmeyer/The Associated Press

Libor Zabransky of the Blues, left, battling Teemu Selanne of the Ducks.

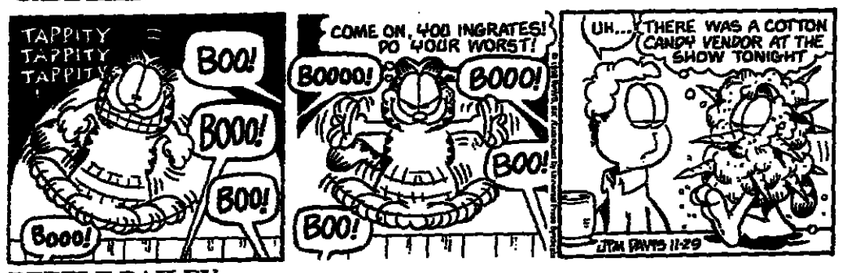
DENNIS THE MENACE

PEANUTS

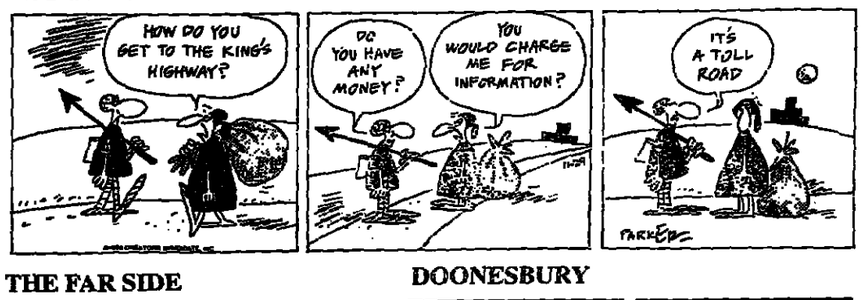


CALVIN AND HOBBES

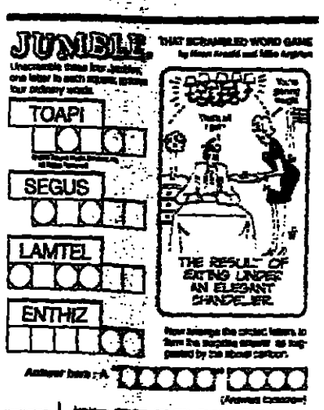
GARFIELD



WIZARD of ID



JUMBLE



BEETLE BAILEY

THE FAR SIDE

"Well, *this* isn't very promising."

DOONESBURY

BLONDIE

Operated by The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company
For reservations telephone
(349) 221 10 00

OBSERVER

Who's Hot? Not Me

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — At the grocery checkout a TV Guide promises a report on "Who's Hot — Who's Happening — Who's Sexy." Self-pity whispers, "Buy it and feel depressed about not being included in the roundup." Common sense persuades me to keep my money.

Moments like this disclose nasty Envy still embedded in my soul.

Yet what is there to envy?

Having all America think you are either hot, happening or sexy would make life intolerable. Imagine: endless requests for photographs, the importunings of movie agents, distraught women hurling themselves against your door, sneering jokes from friends, relatives, the mailman.

Down that road lies madness. Had fate actually made me hot, happening or sexy, having the news publicized would be so hateful that TV Guide would find itself in court answering invasion-of-privacy charges.

□

Yet it is faintly galling to be left off the list. A slow checkout cashier allows time to scan TV Guide's gallery cost-free. All are fine-looking men and women, apparently in the entertainment business.

"Hot," "happening" and "sexy"? These turn out to be mere show-biz talk, meaning that these particular performers are having successes this winter.

Envy gives way to sadness. Sadness for all beautiful young actors who each season receive these embarrassing media accolades. Before they have time to grow their first wrinkle, most will be has-beens, forgotten by the hype-meisters. In this gallery of burgeoning successes I recognize not a single face. This happens often lately when I confront collections of famous faces. The arrival of the latest Vanity Fair or People magazine becomes an increasingly pointless event with their pages and pages celebrating people whose names mean nothing to me.

How bleak, you will say, to be so out of touch with the day's rich and famous. No, it is not bleak. It is essential to survival. The trick to happy living these days is to quit trying to keep up. There is simply too much to keep up with.

□

People who try to keep up with it all end up prostrate in dark closets weeping because they still haven't got around to installing Windows 95 or can't distinguish Sharon Stone from Julia Whatzername, Michael Ovitz from Michael Eisner and Lexus from Infiniti.

It is a glorious time to be alive, white, male, well paid and American, but the glories come at you so relentlessly, so multitudinously, so insistently that they will finish you off unless you ration the intake.

Nikita Khrushchev, poor dolt, once said the Soviet Union would bury us. He didn't know that, left alone, we would bury ourselves under our own riches.

Here's something important to remember when you stop keeping up: Don't care that you are not keeping up.

I rejoice at having licked the lethal American compulsion to keep up, just as, years ago, I rejoiced after licking the deadly cigarette habit. Both victories put fresh spring in my step and give me hope of living far beyond the age of 115.

New York Times Service

Brian Eno: Where Has the Conversation Gone?

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — During the last few years, Brian Peter George St. John le Baptiste de la Salle Eno has been somewhat dismayed to find himself acting more and more like the "nonmusician" he once joked that he was.

Eno, who grew up in Ipswich, England, had served as adviser and mentor to David Bowie, John Cale, Talking Heads, Devo, U2 ("The Joshua Tree") and others. He once ironically described himself as a "systems operator." "Eminence grise" will also do.

Since 1993, he has been working with a charity called War Child, which ships food, medical supplies, building materials and so on to Bosnia. He found this more gratifying and positive than adding to all the music piling up out there, which was not amounting to much as far as he could hear. Music didn't seem to be making much difference one way or another any more.

One of the most influential producers ever, author of the theoretical handbook "Music for Non-Musicians," and composer of "Music for Airports," Eno is now basically asking the question, "Is it still hip to be hip?"

While word has it that youth in London is on the most creative binge since its "swinging" days, Eno poses difficult questions rather than joining the party. Along with Bryan Ferry, Eno co-founded the rock band Roxy Music; he was the group's synthesist. He was influenced by the composer John Cage, and Cage was also an influence on Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Jon Hassell, Terry Riley and others involved on the frontiers of avant-garde rock, jazz and classical music. Eno started thinking in "reductive terms" and by now he seems to have reduced music just about out of the picture.

At his age (48), he considers himself a product of the counterculture. But "the counterculture has become a wholly owned subsidiary of the establishment. The counterculture is Calvin Klein. The young, by and large, seem to have been suckered. Perhaps we need to point this out. So I talk more than I make music. All I seem to do these days is talk — think and talk.

"Music is no longer the center of the cultural conversation. I can remember when everybody talked about which records were relevant, and everybody's metaphors and reference points were very clear and common and they all went through a relatively small cosmology of musicians and pieces of music.

Christian Rose

"I talk more than I make music. All I seem to do these days is think and talk."

Music mediated culture. Music is still nice and young people like it, but it's a kind of add-on. Not essential. So I wondered — where is the cultural conversation now?"

It occurred to him that perhaps the cultural conversation is where the real conversation is. On the Internet.

He considers the Internet a "mess of boring rubbish, but the reason people are so excited about it is because it offers the possibility of this huge global conversation. Everybody is talking to everybody. It's nice not having to go through the top of the pyramid; we can talk horizontally across."

The fact that something is being said is thus more interesting than what is being said: "We have evolved these incredibly complex interwoven communications networks and what are we doing with them? Not much. Talk is cheap. Keep it simple. Keep it fast. The Net is run for what we call trainspotters, and what you call nerds. Still, conversation itself appears to be thriving. Right now the conversation itself may in fact *be* the culture."

Eno is like a self-charging battery, the more he says the more there is to say. It's hard keeping up. For example, did he just say that the conversation is the culture. And does that mean that the message is in fact the media? Wait a minute!

"No matter what you do today," he continued, "there are all these ponytailed admen at the finish line giving you this huge bear hug. And it occurred to me that a noble aspiration for a young artist today would be to try and make art that is too ugly to be used for advertising. To make the unco-optable thing.

"A great deal of people's behavior is mediated culturally rather than rationally. People make decisions about what they think they ought to do on the basis not of rational argument but on what works for them metaphorically; what has been given dignity in their culture, and how they respond to that.

"For instance, I can imagine very easily that within the next two or three years buying American products will become a totally uncool thing to do. Don't touch them with a barge pole. Just as it's been increasingly fashionable to wear Levi's. In the flip-flop way that these things go these days, the reverse can always happen."

It is, he says, already happening in Britain. "European films are becoming more popular. While McDonald's are everywhere, fashionable kids in London are vegetarians. I do not mean to dismiss fashion," he said, grimacing after a sip of weak French tea. "Fashion is deep. Fashion is a bundle of attitudes that one embraces and identifies with as a bundle. It does not have to be rationally argued at every level.

"Our generation has been told so many times that we mustn't criticize whatever's going on now, that it's all part of the great evolving fabric of life, and that, naturally, if it's new, then we won't get it, etcetera, etcetera. But I think that our reluctance to be critical was based on the idea that there was a continuing, evolving counterculture, and that at some point it would turn its guns on us oldies.

"Whereas what we now have is a surrogate counterculture; people express their allegiance to the system by their choice of brand allegiance. This is a neatly reflexive system for those who own the game; letting us argue about the curtains while they design the building and choose its location.

"But perhaps I'm missing the whole point completely, which is the paranoia of the no-longer-adolescent. Maybe the whole topic has changed, so I'm ludicrously trapped in the mindset which imagines that *any* of this stuff — the politics of cultural dominance, of corporate power, of global capital-shifting — is in the least important."

PEOPLE

THE author **Salman Rushdie** was edged out by a literary newcomer for the Bad Sex in Fiction Award 1996. Rushdie was shortlisted by The Literary Review magazine for the sex scenes in "The Moor's Last Sigh," which feature such choice phrases as "Uma, my Uma, murmured in my ear near the Everest of our ecstasy, on the South Col of desire." But he was beaten by a first-time novelist, David Huggins, whose novel "The Big Kiss" clinched the prize thanks to sex scenes that were judged "irrelevant to the plot." **Auberon Waugh**, the editor of The Literary Review, said at the prize-giving ceremony, "Huggins's book is quite funny and quite disgusting. The prize is meant to serve as a gentle discouragement for first novelists to include irrelevant sex. First novelists do tend to ham it up the most." Huggins put a brave face on being chosen for the title. "I am delighted and honored to receive this award," he said. "This is one of the happiest days of my life."

□

Kirstie Alley, former "Cheers" star, and the actor **Parker Stevenson** are headed for divorce court after 13 years of marriage. The syndicated columnist Liz Smith quoted a statement issued by the couple: "We intend to remain the best of friends and devoted parents to our two children."

□

Rikki Lake, **Jenny Jones** and the rest of the daytime talk show world may face some royal competition. The **Duchess of York** is fielding offers to be host of a daytime talk show, said her spokesman, **Howard Rubenstein**. The duchess, known as **Fergie**, is also considering other opportunities in television and as a corporate spokeswoman, he said. Fergie, who was divorced from **Prince Andrew** in May, toured the United States this month to promote her autobiography.

□

Brigitte Bardot has fallen from favor in the French city of Quimper. Four busts of Marianne, a symbol of the French Republic, have lost their place in City Hall because they were modeled on the actress, who has ties to the far-right National Front. "Brigitte Bardot once incarnated the liberated woman — carefree, young and beautiful," said **Jean-Jacques Urvoas**, director of Quimper's mayoral office. "Today, she has come to symbolize rejection, exclusion." The model for the busts changes every 10 years. The four busts in Bardot's image were replaced by others inspired by the actress **Catherine Deneuve**.

□

Motley Crue's drummer, **Tommy Lee**, pleaded not guilty to charges that he threw a tabloid TV cameraman to the ground, breaking his pelvis. The misdemeanor battery charge stems from a Sept. 29 confrontation outside a Beverly Hills, California, nightclub. **Henry Trappler**, who works for Paparazzi TV, claims his pelvis was broken as he was trying to film Lee and Lee's wife, **Pamela Anderson Lee**. Last week, Anderson Lee filed for divorce after 21 months of marriage.

□

Placido Domingo popped up at the Croatian Embassy in Washington, not to perform, but to dine. Domingo, the new artistic director of the Washington Opera, attended the festivities sponsored by **Ambassador Miomir Zuzul** and his wife, **Tatjana**, following a performance of the company's "Il Guarany." The reception, honoring the Croatian opera singer **Boris Martinovic**, the "Il Guarany" cast and Domingo, featured a lavish spread of Croatian food and wine.

□

Hearthrob **Chris O'Donnell**, who stars in the forthcoming "Batman & Robin," announced his engagement to **Caroline Fentress**, a kindergarten teacher.

□

The auto-racer **Mario Andretti** is turning his attention to the slow art of making wine. The Indy 500 winner plans to open a vineyard and winery next year in the Napa Valley of California. Andretti, who is retired from racing, recalled that during his childhood in Italy, he got a small glass of wine for lunch in the hospital after his tonsils were removed at age 8. "Wine was very much an everyday thing," he said.

Mateo Bocart/Agence France-Presse

THE MEXICAN CONNECTION — Catherine Deneuve arriving at a Mexico City movie house for the opening of a French film festival.

Every country has its own AT&T Access Number which makes calling from France and other countries really easy. Just dial the AT&T Access Number for the country you're calling from and you'll get the fastest, clearest connections. And be sure to charge your calls on your AT&T Calling Card. It'll help you avoid outrageous phone charges on your hotel bill and save you up to 60%* So please check the list below for AT&T Access Numbers.

Steps to follow when calling internationally from overseas:

1. Just dial the AT&T Access Number for the country you are calling from.
2. Dial the phone number you're calling.
3. Dial the calling card number listed above your name.

AT&T Access Numbers

EUROPE	
Austria●	022-903-011
Belgium●	0-800-100-10
France	0-800-99-0011
Germany	0130-0010
Greece●	02-800-1311
Ireland	1-800-550-000
Italy●	172-1011
Netherlands●	06-022-9111
Russia●▲(Moscow)▼	755-5042
Spain◇	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
Switzerland●	0-800-550011
United Kingdom▲	0500-89-0011
MIDDLE EAST	
Egypt●(Cairo)▼	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
Saudi Arabia◇	1-800-10
AFRICA	
Ghana	8191
Kenya▲	0-800-10
South Africa	0-800-99-0123

Can't find the Access Number for the country you're calling from? Just ask any operator for AT&T Direct® Service, or visit our Web site at: http://www.att.com/traveler

*Based on calls to the U.S. Cleared based on customer preference testing. ▼ Available to callers in the major cities. ◇ Connection may be delayed during peak hours. ● Public phones may require deposit of coin or phone card for dial tone. ▲ Calling available to designated countries only. ©1996 AT&T

AT&T